Thursday, November 25, 2010 ★★ 10 sections / Vol. 25 / No. 330 P18

NEWS / A2
Comelec Chair
Jose Melo resigns

WORLD / A21
Probers say bridge
sway set off stampede

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
INCISIVE NEWS • FEARLESS VIEWS

Obama sends nuke aircraft carrier group

BUSAN, South Korea—A US aircraft carrier group set off for Korean waters on Wednesday, a day after North Korea launched artillery shells on a South Korean island, a move likely to enrage Pyongyang and unsettle its ally, China.

The nuclear-powered USS George Washington, which carries 75 warplanes and has a crew of over 6,000, left a naval base south of Tokyo and would join exercises with South Korea from Sunday to the following Wednesday, US officials in Seoul said.

"An aircraft carrier is the most visible sign of power projection there is ... you

OBAMA A4

50,000 Pinoys in ROK put on Alert Level 1

By Kristine L. Alave

SEOUL—Filipinos in the Republic of Korea (ROK) have been put on alert for possible evacuation in case tensions in the restive Korean Peninsula escalate, the Philippine Embassy in Seoul said yesterday.

SEOUL A3

"US CAVALRY" Nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS George Washington with 75 warplanes aboard leads an American naval flotilla steaming into Korean waters, a move likely to enrage North Korea. Analysts claim that North Korean leader Kim Jong-il (inset) could be playing his old game to get attention and economic goodies. REUTERS (FILE)

'Condom lesser of 2 evils'

Pope's stand a seismic shift on Church teachings

VATICAN CITY—In a seismic shift on one of the most profound—and profoundly contentious—Roman Catholic teachings, Pope Benedict XVI on Tuesday clearly acknowledged that the need to prevent diseases like AIDS could outweigh the Church's long opposition to the use of condoms.

It was a significant and stunning personal pronouncement from the conservative Pope after more than two decades of heated debate inside the Roman Catholic Church and condemnation by health workers, who said the Church's ban on prophylactics was morally indefensible during the AIDS crisis.

The Vatican said condoms were the lesser of two evils when used to curb the spread of AIDS, even if their use prevented a pregnancy.

The Vatican still holds that condoms are to be used and that Church doctrine forbidding artificial birth control remains unchanged. Still, the reassessment on condom use to help prevent disease carries profound significance, particularly in Africa where AIDS is rampant.

The position was an acknowledgment that the

CONDOM A4

STUNNING MOVE Pope Benedict XVI holds the Book of the Gospels during Mass at St. Peter's Basilica on Sunday. The Vatican spokesperson has broadened the scope of the Pope's comments about condom use being the lesser evil than transmitting HIV to a partner. AP

'Survey has to say what's in RH bill'

By Jocelyn R. Uy and TJ Burgonio

IT COULD be in the way the questions are phrased.

A retired bishop yesterday flaunted the idea of the Church initiating an extensive survey at the diocesan level to validate whether majority of Filipinos favored the reproductive health (RH) bill.

Nonetheless Bishop Emeritus Teodoro Bacani said previous surveys showing 70 to 80 percent of Filipinos were supporting the population control measure did not ask questions detailed enough to have yielded informed answers.

SURVEY A4

Bong, Jinggoy slam Hayden: He stinks

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Marinel R. Cruz

THE WORD WAR between Sen. Ramon Revilla Jr. and disgraced physician Hayden Kho, who videotaped his sexual escapades with women, including two actresses and a Brazilian model, is heating up.

BONG A8

But for 2, all jailed Ampatuans elected execs

By Nash B. Maulana and Rose May de Guzman
Inquirer Mindanao

Maguindanao Massacre

EXCEPT FOR TWO, all of the jailed members of the powerful clan are incumbent officials. So, Maguindanao is not exactly free from the politically powerful Ampatuans in the aftermath of the massacre on Nov. 23, 2009.

Sajid Islam Ampatuan, the former governor, won a seat in the provincial board in the May 10 elections. His brother, Anwar, a former mayor of Shariff Aguak town, was unopposed as vice mayor.

Unless disbarred if convicted, their brother Zaldy remains governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) until Sept. 30, 2011.

Their cousin, Ahmad Ampatuan, also won in detention as vice mayor of Mamasapano.

Of the three brothers and a cousin now under maximum security detention in Bicutan, Taguig City, only Andal Ampatuan Jr., the primary suspect, does not hold an elective post.

BUT FOR 2 A11

TELLING THE FILIPINO STORY TO THE WORLD 25

Editors' Note: For 25 days, we will be telling stories about the Inquirer to mark the paper's 25th anniversary on Dec. 9, 2010. Some are little-known stories but are puzzling on how we cover unfolding events; some are mark-the-day stories that become talk-of-the-town types; others are turning point stories that have changed the landscape of history; still others, big or small, seize the heart and never let go. But whatever, the Inquirer will tell you the story.

First few days: 3 phones, 40 staffers; no desks for deskmen at the 'cockpit'

By Fe Zamora
Today Inquirer

"YES, ANOTHER newspaper," the late Max Soliven wrote in his "statement of purpose" introducing the Philippine Daily Inquirer to the reading public on Dec. 9, 1985.

A few days later, publisher Soliven and board chair Eugenia "Eggie" Apostol had their first shouting match in front of editors, reporters, copyboys and guests. Not even cocktail and "refresh" Betty Go-Belmonte's prayer power could pacify the angry duo.

Soliven walked out, but came back the next day with "dried crayon" as a peace offering to Apostol.

From that day on we knew the INQUIRER was not just "another newspaper." It was "news."

The Soliven-Apostol episode was only a curtain raiser. On its first few days, the Inquirer newsroom was an arena of racket, loud locker, verbal skirmishes. Reporters and editors who were there to write the news were themselves

INQUI A11

Gossamer sea creature found off PH waters

MANILA—Scientists unveiled on Wednesday a gossamer, ghostly creature discovered in the deepest reaches of the ocean between Indonesia and the Philippines.

The squidworm, up to 9.4 centimeters (3.7 inches) in length, is far more elegant than its name would suggest.

Swimming upright, it navigates by waving two body-length cirri of thin, paddle-shaped protrusions that cascade like danseuses.

Ten tentacles as long or longer than its body stick out of its head, along with six pairs of curved barbal organs that allow the squidworm to taste and

GOSSAMER A6

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

Baguio	Mostly Cloudy	Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Legazpi	Partly Cloudy
Dagupan	Mostly Cloudy	Iloilo	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Mostly Cloudy	Dumaguete	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Metro Manila	Mostly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Naga	Mostly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy	Cotabato	Partly Cloudy

PCSO 2D 3D 6/55 GRAND LOTTO

2D	21	10	3D	1	9 4 6
2D	13	10	6/55	4	40 41 42 45 55
2D	11	27			
SUERTRESO	6	7	1		
4D	2	8	5		
4D	8	8	1		

Dinky no-show in House probe

Melo quits as Comelec chief

By Jeremaw Reing

COMMISSION on Elections Chairman Jose Melo has announced his resignation from the poll body to take effect on Jan. 31, 2011.

Melo, 70, submitted his "irrevocable" letter of resignation to President Aquino and the commissioners en banc, Comelec Commissioner Nicodemo Ferrer, Gregorio Larrazabal and Rene Sarmiento confirmed yesterday.

Asked why Melo was quitting, the three commissioners were unanimous in saying: "Sir (Melo) just wants to move on."

"We have been talking about it for quite sometime now, that is why we were not really surprised. He showed the letter to us in the en banc session yesterday (Tuesday)," said Ferrer, the most senior commissioner.

Larrazabal said he believed Melo wanted to "take a rest" after the automation in his "best achievement," and vowed to quit if the computerization would not push through or if the automated election would turn out to be a failure.

"We all know that automation was his main focus," Larrazabal said.

Melo, a retired Supreme Court associate justice, replaced Resurrecion Z. Borra, who resigned on Oct. 5, 2007 at the height of the NBN-ZTE scandal.

Melo was appointed on a seven-year term, which runs to end in 2015. With his resignation, there will be three vacancies in the Comelec en banc next year, as Larrazabal's and Ferrer's terms are also set to expire.

Commissioner Lucenito Tagle, Sarmiento could appoint a new chief to serve out the remainder of Melo's term.

The Comelec's next election activity is the August 2011 polls in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

MELO

"stressful preparations" for the 2010 polls.

"Ever since he has said that if the 2010 elections will go smoothly he can leave his post, Comelec spokesperson James Jimenez told GMA Radyo Inquirin yesterday.

When he was appointed on March 23, 2008, Melo vowed to automate the 2010 national and local elections.

He has said he would consider

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE HOUSE of Representatives yesterday reopened the investigation into the controversial P10-billion Poverty Eradication and Alleviation Certificate (Peace) bonds, which are due to mature next year to the tune of P35 billion.

But the most prominent resource person, Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman, was a no-show, leaving some members of the House committee on good government and public accountability very much annoyed.

Instead, Soliman sent a letter to the committee, in which she said that the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) had nothing to do to with the 10-year zero-coupon bond sale which netted the Cuneta of NGO Networks (Code NGO), a group that Soliman used to head, a P1.4 billion profit.

"In such, the DSWD cannot respond positively to your request nor can it provide a position paper or any documents related to the subject of inquiry," Soliman said in her letter.

Deputy Minority Leader Milagros Magsaysay said lawmakers would not take Soliman's sensations sitting down, a hint that Soliman's confirmation by the congressional Commission on Appointments could be derailed.

Explanation not acceptable

"That kind of explanation is not acceptable to the Commission on Appointments," said Sorsogon Rep. Salvador Escudero.

Soliman should have taken advantage of the public hearing to explain her side and clear the air of suspicions that she had benefited from the deal, Escudero and Magsaysay said.

Committee chair Iloilo Rep. Jerry Trenas Treñas said the House plans to put a closure to the controversy unlike what the Senate did in 2002, when it investigated the issue but did not produce any committee report after terminating its inquiry.

The Peace bonds deal, approved just months after President Macapagal-Arroyo came to power in 2001, envisaged using Social Security System (SSS) allegedly used to influence with the Arroyo government for the issuance and sale of the 10-year zero-coupon notes at a rate that allowed it to sell them at the secondary market for a profit.

Code NGO was one of the civil society groups that worked for the ouster of President Joseph Estrada and supported Arroyo's succession to power. Three months into the Arroyo presidency, it approached the government with a supposedly creative way to raise money for poverty eradication in the capital markets.

The Peace bonds deal was denounced by senators as graft, saying the government bent its rules to favor one group over others.

SOLIMAN

Master stroke

Others saw it as a master stroke by an ex-financial NGO to manipulate government and the banking system by making a huge profit out of nothing.

Soliman served as Arroyo's DSWD chief from 2001 until she quit the Cabinet, along with the "Hyatt 10" group of Cabinet members in the height of the "Hello, Garci" wiretapping scandal in 2005. She is now allied with the Aquino administration.

At yesterday's hearing, the panel established that Soliman was a former chair of Code NGO. It was also learned that her husband, Hector, served as corporate secretary of the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF), which Code NGO set up with a P1.3-billion endowment from the profits it made from the Peace bonds.

Gino Donato Marasigan, the Code NGO executive director, said that the deal was above board and the proceeds went into the various anti-poverty programs of the NGO network.

The panel also discussed another potential conflict of interest—the role played by Marissa Camacho, the Code NGO chair at the time. Marissa is a sister of Arroyo's then-finance secretary, Isidro Camacho.

Sokor parents want kids to stay in Baguio

By Gabrielle Meade
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—As tension rises in the Korean peninsula following a North Korean artillery attack on a South Korean island, worried parents and relatives of South Korean children studying in this city have ordered them to postpone trips to their country and wait for the political tensions to subside.

Hwi Chang, president of the Northern Luzon Korean Association based in Baguio, said while they are not "overly worried" about the attacks that killed two soldiers and injured several civilians, they believe it would be safer for Korean students to "focus on their studies, to stay put and not to cause a lot outside the country."

Baguio hosts the biggest number of Koreans in Luzon, next to Metro Manila. Most of the 7,000 Koreans come to Baguio to study English.

Chang said Korean associations in the Philippines are denouncing, in a report some, North Korea's attacks on a military compound in Yeonpyeong island, where several South Korean government soldiers and their families are staying.

Palace not letting go of tourism chief

MALACAÑANG is not letting go of Tourism Secretary Alberto Lim over the "Pilipinas Kay Ganda" campaign fiasco, apparently satisfied that the resignation of Undersecretary Vicente Romano had settled the issue.

Presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda yesterday dismissed suggestions that Lim should resign as well, saying that Romano had admitted to being responsible for the ill-fated brand-building project and had resigned as a result.

Lacierda made it clear that President Aquino was fully behind Lim even as a number of senators have threatened to derail Lim's confirmation in the congressional Commission on Appointments.

"It was Romano who was on top of the logo project. [Lim] left it to Undersecretary Romano to undertake that project. He [Romano] admitted his mistakes and offered to resign," Lacierda told reporters.

Lacierda said the accusation that Lim is not sensitive of the concerns of industry stakeholders was "entirely inaccurate."

"It is said from in the industry who are working Lim's resignation were 'against Secretary Lim from the very beginning.'

"They are against his views on the ill-conceived aviation policies, and this is just a convenient excuse for them to say this issue against Secretary Lim," he said.

He told Mr. Aquino met with Romano and Lim, the other day when Romano told the President that he was resigning.

He said Mr. Aquino accepted Romano's resignation with "reluctance." He added that the President "appreciated" Romano's actions.

He also said the Palace was also "pleased" with the public reaction to Romano's resignation as "it shows that the administration has the standards required of each public official, that of decency and accountability."

Lacierda said the President had instructed Lim to come up with a new marketing plan and hope and to show this to him before he makes a presentation.

"The President told Sec. [the DOT] to conduct a focused group discussion as well," he said.

Rumbling Cabinet members and officials who have embarrassed the administration in less than six months in office should follow the lead of Romano and resign, said Sen. Manny Villar Jr.

"If they want to help the government, if they want to help their boss, they should admit to their shortcomings, if ever they make a mistake," he said. Ulysses Arevalo with DJ C. Calleongos

LIM

The most elegant response to the question regarding your personal carbon footprint.

BlueEFFICIENCY is our way to emission-free mobility. And with our BlueEFFICIENCY diesel and petrol engines, the new E-Class is powerfully efficient and efficiently powerful. Fast forward to tomorrow.

Mercedes-Benz Global City 815 7777 0920 9046476 Mercedes-Benz Greenhills 723 5838 0920 9046472 www.mercedes-benz.com.ph

Dr. Smile
DENTAL CARE CENTER

A PRIMER ON DENTAL LASER
An alternative to needles and drills

Q What is a dental laser and its uses?

Dr. Smile says: A dental laser is a beam of light energy that can cut, penetrate and cauterize. It can replace the conventional dental drill and avoid injections. Lasers help in blood clotting and minimize blood loss. Its use is less traumatic and invasive, prevents swelling and stimulate faster healing. It can also do away with stitches.

Dental lasers have an application in everyday dentistry - in implant, sinus lift, tooth whitening, removal of tooth decay, tumor excision, tartar removal, gum disease, root canal treatment, oral surgery, orthodontics, TMJ pain, gum depigmentation and cold sore.

With lasers, dental treatment is fast, safe and becomes a relaxing and comfortable procedure. At Dr. Smile, it is dentistry that creates a better, happier patient experience especially for children.

For inquiries, contact: 811-2121, 7181 P.O.S.M. (Court of King, S. SM Megamall, A Mandaluyong) Tel: (632) 477-3719 to 13 | Email: inquiry@drsmile.com.ph | Website: www.drsmile.com.ph

Standard Chartered

Get free treats this Christmas

Enjoy free* treats from these establishments by using your Standard Chartered Bank credit card anywhere*.

For details, call 889-1111 or visit standardchartered.com/ph

Desserts

Meals & Coffee

Gift Certificates

RUNNR

Here for good

ELIMINATING REDUNDANCIES

Palace scraps anti-graft commission

By Norman Bordadora

PRESIDENT Aquino has abolished the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission (PAGC), one of the agencies mandated to look into the alleged corruption of Malacañang appointees.

Mr. Aquino's Executive Order No. 13 assigned the investigative and adjudicatory functions of the PAGC to the Office of the Deputy Executive Secretary for Legal Affairs (ODESLA).

"In order policy of the government to fight and eradicate graft and corruption in the different departments, bureaus, offices and other government agencies and instrumentalities," the order's declaration of policy read.

"The government adopted a policy of streamlining the government bureaucracy to promote economy and efficiency in the government," it added.

The executive order added that placing the mandate on the deputy executive secretary placed the function directly under the Office of the President (OP).

"The PAGC is an example of the kind of redundancies we want to eliminate in government to allow more better allocation for limited resources. It doesn't matter somuch that was or more government offices do the same thing," Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr. said.

"It's wasteful and inefficient," he added.

The PAGC is one of 18 offices under the Office of the President that did not get any funding from the OP's proposed P4.075 billion budget for 2011.

The other offices under the OP which did not receive funding for next year due to alleged redundancy are the Mindanao Development Council, Office of the South Luzon Quadrangle Area, Office of External Affairs, Mindoro Development Council, Presidential Anti-Smuggling Group, Luzon Urban Beltway Super Region, Basic Sinta Basin Watershed Management Project, Office of the Presidential Adviser on Global Warming and Climate Change, and the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Home Government Control.

Offices and employees affected by the PAGC would be able to avail of benefits under existing laws.

He said he will work with the Department of Budget and Management to ensure the smooth termination of the PAGC's activities by Dec. 31, 2010.

The executive order also created the Investigative and Adjudicatory Division under the ODESLA. The division shall be responsible for the investigative and adjudicative functions of the PAGC.

Assistant Executive Secretary for Legal Affairs Ronaldo Zoreta is the officer-in-charge of the Office of the Deputy Executive Secretary for Legal Affairs.

He has served the government in various capacities for over 20 years, including provincial administrator of Batangas and member of the provincial board.

Zoreta graduated from the University of the Philippines College of Law in 1987 and was admitted to the Bar in 1988. He also taught law at the University of Batangas.

KILL ARTHRITIS IN 5 MINUTES
AND FAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
www.forcastmed.net

Senate webcast provides live streaming

By Christian V. Esguerra

SO PUGGY senator is literally sleeping on the job?

Find out about this and more as senators have adopted a resolution allowing "live streaming" of their plenary sessions and committee hearings for all the world to see via the Internet.

The resolution sponsored by Sen. Francis Pangilinan called for a live feed of Senate proceedings "without editing or commentary" to "provide accurate information to the public."

Live streaming began yesterday in time for the chamber's deliberations on the proposed P1.645-trillion national budget for next year. Legislators have vowed to approve the proposed appropriations bill for 2011 before the end of the year.

New media

The link to the live webcast can be accessed at senate.gov.ph. It is located on the right side of the web page, just under the corner containing messages from Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile.

Pangilinan welcomed the live streaming, saying "opening public proceedings to new media of late has become a vital source of information not only in the country but in other countries' government as well."

"Now the public can see (and) judge for themselves how their elected officials are doing their jobs," he said. "Not able to provide the public in general accurate information, transparency and accountability of legislators in the present lingo is the former."

The web cast will encourage greater participation of the public given the limited seats at the Senate gallery, according to the lawmaker.

Public access

"Technical innovations such as live streaming will give the community the chance to have access to the public proceedings in the Senate, and even the Philippines abroad can still use the actual proceedings and debates/discussions on issues affecting their constituents and state of affairs in their employment in other countries," he said in Senate Resolution No. 519.

Pangilinan said live streaming of legislative proceedings was not new for and the approach was also common in areas like Canada, and women in New England, Arizona, New York, Colorado, Oregon, Oklahoma, Montana and Arkansas in the United States.

"It is a known fact that most of the issues and discussions raised during the plenary sessions and committee hearings/meetings are misinterpreted which causes unnecessary confusion to the public," according to the resolution.

idp
The exhibition allows you to talk to Australian institution representatives about how you can study in Australia.
CEBU
26 November 2010
Friday
Cebu Marriott Hotel
Grand Ballroom
12-1pm Seminar
1-5pm Exhibition
MAKATI
27 November 2010
Saturday
Hotel Intercontinental
Grand Ballroom
12-1pm Seminar
12-5pm Exhibition
AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION EXHIBITION 2010
To pre-register, please contact:
Cebu
Tel: (032) 236 2188 Fax: (032) 416 1114
Email: ina.valcarcel@idp.com
Makati
Tel: (02) 908 8788 local 114
Email: aileen.galvez@idp.com
Please bring transcripts if available.
FREE ADMISSION

PCSO back under Palace control

By Norman Bordadora

PRESIDENT Aquino has returned the supervision and control over the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) back to Malacañang.

"One of the main objectives of the Office of the President (OP) is to enhance the health services and charity programs to the public as well as to ensure that by respond on calamities, disasters relief and emerging illnesses," President Aquino said in Executive Order No. 14.

"In order to ensure the effective implementation of the social agenda of the President as well as to effectively facilitate the health services and charity programs of OP there is a need of placing back the PCSO control and supervision over PCSO," he added.

The PCSO, the principal government agency in charge of raising and providing funds for health programs, medical assistance and services, and charities of national character, was originally under the OP by virtue of Republic Act 1169 that created the office.

Then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, through Executive Order No. 383, placed the supervision and control of the PCSO to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) on Nov. 8, 2004.

On Aug. 12 2005, through her Executive Order No. 493, Arroyo revoked the supervision and control of PCSO from the DSWD to the Department of Health.

Meanwhile, Eastern Samar Rep. Ben Evardone is proposing that the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) put a cap on the grand lottery prize at P500 million. There is still no go-signal by the Palace.

"The PCSO must set a limit to jackpot prize or make at a maximum amount, say P500,000,000 and if such maximum amount is not won or mobilized, it must be donated to orphanages and charitable institutions," he said in a resolution seeking an inquiry into the workings of the mega lotto draws.

His colleagues in the House minority bloc are backing the idea.

Quezon Rep. Danilo Suarez said: "I'm not comfortable with that. The higher the better. For every amount that you're betting, there's a pote that goes to charity. That's entertainment, to cash become luck." With TJ Burgonio

VRH
STAINLESS STEEL
SANITEC
IMPORT VENTURES, INC.
Providing Design Alternatives with Exceptional Value.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Thursday, November 25, 2010
34th Week in Ordinary Time
Collection of the saints

1st Reading: Rev 10:1-3, 11:15, 19:1-3, 9a
Gospel: Lk 21:20-28

Jesus said to his disciples, "When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then you must know that the time has come when it will be desolated [a wasteland]. Then, if you are in Judea, flee to the mountains; if you are in the city, leave it; and let those who are in the fields never return thereto.

"For these will be the days of its punishment and all that was announced by the prophets will be fulfilled. Woe unto those who are pregnant women and those who have babies at the breast! For a great calamity will come upon the land, and divine justice upon this people. They will be put to death by the sword or taken in slavery to other nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled upon by the pagans until the time of the pagans is fulfilled.

"Then there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth anguish of perplexed nations when they hear the roaring of the sea and its waves. People will faint with fear at the mere thought of what is to come upon the world, for the forces of the universe will be shaken. And at this time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

"Now, when you see the first events, stand erect and lift up your heads, for your deliverance is drawing near."

Commentary

"When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, that you will know that it will soon be destroyed."

Disaster is not always 'disaster'

It is, however, always a sign that something new is happening in our lives, that we are being invited to be ready to become participants in it.

Thus, Jesus is calling us to live a new life.

Aviation audit delayed; PH to stay on blacklist

By DJ Yap

THE WHOLESALE replacement of DAP Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) officials has caused a delay in the Philippines' removal from the blacklist of countries deemed to have unsafe aviation.

The International Civil Aviation Organization Council recently informed the CAAP that it was postponing to November safety audit of the country because of "operational concerns."

CAAP Director General Alfonso Cusi said that this referred to the disputed appointment of seven key officials to the agency by the new Aquino administration without going through civil service regulations.

Cusi has questioned the appointments, which were done without his approval, and wanted that could adversely affect the country's efforts to be removed from the aviation blacklists of the US and European Union.

Airlines from the Philippines were stopped from expanding services to the US in 2008 and banned from flying to Europe last March over concerns that airline safety was not being overseen according to international standards set by him.

The US Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) and the EU both take guidance from the Icao.

The government said it had complied substantially with the 99 deficiencies listed by Icao and was looking forward to the safety audit scheduled for Dec. 7 to 18.

However, in a Nov. 9 letter, the Icao informed the CAAP that the audit would have to be moved to another date.

No date frame was given as to when the Icao audit team's visit would be rescheduled.

In a clarificatory teleconference with Icao officials on Nov. 17, it was learned that the term, "operational concerns" related to the "downsizing of Icao in the sustainability of the present reforms being undertaken by CAAP."

"The present unclear political announcement of a change in senior management could create, in Icao's opinion, an indeterminable future of professional processes within CAAP leaving Icao's audit team not accepting.

Cusi said the Icao officials, whom he did not name, raised concerns about the "lack of continuity" within the CAAP management.

"They were concerned that if they carried on, they would be talking to a different set of people. We have to fix that defect before we schedule another visit," he said.

The Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC) replaced seven CAAP officials based on a "desire letter" by President Aquino Cusi, an Arroyo administration appointee, resigned being ranked only because he didn't head he enjoy school term.

CCA reunion

THE CENTER for Culinary Arts (CCA Manila) is marking its 16th year with an event dubbed "Flame On" tomorrow at Oceana, SM Mall of Asia Complex, starting at 5 p.m.

CCA Manila's and and learns will be hosted during the event, which will allow it to host a presentation of the school's 14 milestones, "CCA's Hot Trivia," the relaunch of the school's official magazine "CCA Central," and recognition of Salon Culinaire winners.

In a statement, CCA Manila managing director Ma. Wilma T. Luna said the school continued to be the leader in formal culinary education in the country.

For inquiries on "Flame On," call 426-4040 lo 41, e-mail marketing@cca-manila.com or visit www.cca-manila.com. The CCA Manila campus is at 287 Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

HOLYLAND

Jordan, Israel and Egypt

ALL-IN FARES AT

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE

SINGAPORE

FROM USD 330

RETURN

SLIMMERS WORLD

BUY 1 MONTH GET 1 MONTH FREE!

Winners of Miss Bikini Philippines 2010 International Pageant

BUY 15 TREATMENTS GET 15 FREE!

PLUS! Personal Training and all the Latest Remedies!

SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE FIRST 25 SLOTS TODAY!

SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE FIRST 25 SLOTS TODAY!

IPL Skin REJUVENATION for men & women

to give you a supple, radiant blemish-free & younger-looking skin!

"All our full programmes are guaranteed!"

CALL NOW FOR YOUR FREE CONSULTATIONS!

- NO MONTHLY DUES OR LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP!
- NO JOINING FEE!
- CREDIT CARD OPTIONS AT 0%
- MEDICAL SUPERVISION AT ALL CENTERS

CALL OUR ONE - STOP SUPER CENTERS FOR FITNESS, SKIN, BODY AND FACE.

FITNESS HOTLINE: 536-3333

SKIN HOTLINE: 525-8771

MOBILE NUMBER: 091- SLIMMERS (75466377)

www.slimmersworld.com.ph * inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

DOH welcomes Pope's stand, part of its 'ABC'

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE DEPARTMENT of Health yesterday said Pope Benedict XVI's remarks on condom use to prevent AIDS was a welcome development as the country continued to battle the spread of the fatal disease.

"We are happy that his remarks actually considered the scientific evidence of condom as an instrument versus HIV/AIDS," said Dr. Gerardo Bimar, director of the National Epidemiology Prevention and Control Program.

The use of condoms continued to be part of the health department's ABC (Abstinence, be faithful, use a condom) strategy to curb the rising number of HIV and AIDS in the country, Bimar said separate reporters yesterday.

"Although it is not the only solution, it is a primary component of our AIDS prevention program," he said.

In excerpts published in the Vatican newspaper over the weekend, Pope Benedict XVI cited the example of the use of condoms by male prostitutes as a "first step toward moralization," but said attempts that condoms were still not the moral way to deal with the evil of HIV infection.

Benedict's statements were taken from the book, "Light of the World," which was published on Tuesday.

1,305 new incidents

For October alone, the health department listed 1,305 new positive cases with HIV, bringing the number of total incidences to 3,729 since the virus was first detected in the country in 1984.

The country has 1,305 new incidences from January to October this year, or a total of 3,729 have been found as AIDS cases. The area is slowly movement from low prevalence to concentrated.

HIV develops into AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome, a condition in which the body's immune system is attacked and damaged by the virus, ultimately leading to death.

Since 1984, the health agency has recorded a total of 523 deaths due to AIDS. At least 2,000 females were reported in the past year.

Health department data showed that 91 percent of the cases were male, between 25 to 29 years old, and 96 percent were contracted through sexual intercourse, with men having sex with other men as the "predominant type of sexual transmission."

Condom lesser of 2 evils, Pope Benedict XVI says

From page A1

Church's long-held antibirth control stance against condoms doesn't justify putting lives at risk.

The new stance was stated out as the Vatican explained Benedict's comments on condoms and HIV in a book based on his interviews with a German journalist.

Not only to men

The Vatican spokesperson, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, told reporters on Monday that he asked the Pope whether he intended his comments to apply only to men. Benedict replied that it really didn't matter, the important thing was that the person took into consideration the life of another.

"I personally asked the Pope if there was a serious, important problem in the choice of the prostitute to use a condom," Lombardi said. "He told me no. The problem is then ... It's the first step of taking responsibility, of taking into consideration the risk of the life of another with whom you have a relation. [...]"

"Whether it's a man or woman or a transsexual," Lombardi added.

Lombardi said the Pope didn't use the technical terminology "lesser evil" in his comments because he considered his words to be understood by the general public. Various officials, however, said that was what he meant.

"The contribution the Pope awaited to give is not a technical discussion with scientific language on moral problems," Lombardi said. "This is not the job of a book of this type."

'A game changer'

In the book, the Pope read from Vatican opposition to homosexuality, to abortion and contraception, as well as the inviolability of marriage between man and woman.

But by broadening the condom comments to also apply to women, the Pope was saying that condom use is a lesser evil than passing HIV onto a partner, even when pregnancy is possible.

"We're not just talking about an encounter between two men, which has little to do with procreation. We're just introducing relationships that could lead to childbirth," declared Father James Martin, a prominent Jesuit writer and editor.

"By acknowledging that condoms help prevent the spread of HIV between men, that sexual relationships, the Pope has completely changed the Catholic discussion on condoms," said Martin, a liberal-leaning author of books about spirituality and Catholic traditions.

"This is a game changer," he said.

Conservatives reeling

Though Benedict did not explicitly change official Church doctrine or change official Church teaching, his words reverberated around the globe, greeted with anger from some conservative Catholics and enthusiasm from clerics and health workers in Africa. The Pope considers the continent to be a major area of growth for the Church.

"We're in a new world," said the Rev. Jon Fuller, a Jesuit priest and a physician at the Center for HIV/AIDS Care and Research at Boston Medical Center.

The Pope is "implicitly" saying, he said, "that you cannot anymore raise the objection that any use of the condom is an intrinsic evil."

Catholic conservatives, who believe Catholic teaching against contraception is for its inviolable were reeling.

"This is really shaking things up big time," said Dr. John M. Haas, president of the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, who serves on the governing council of the Vatican's Pontifical Academy for Life.

Haas, a moral theologian, said he had seen an embargoed copy of a news book to outside the Pope's remarks where there were comments in which there were grounds for the use of condoms. "I told the publishers, 'Don't publish this. It's going to create such a mess,'" he added.

In the book, "Light of the World," the Pope said that condoms were not "a real or moral solution," but that in some cases they could be used as "a first step in the direction of a moral solution, a first assumption of responsibility."

But his words left room for ambiguity.

Lost in translation

In the book's German and English editions, the text cited the example of a male prostitute, implying homosexual sex, in which a condom would not be a form of contraception. The Church opposes contraception on the grounds that every sexual act should be open to procreation.

But questions emerged when the book's Italian edition, excerpted by the Vatican newspaper on Saturday, used the female rather form of prostitute.

On Tuesday, Lombardi said that the Italian translation was not correct, but that the Pope had specifically told him that the issue was not procreation but rather disease prevention...regardless of gender.

Lombardi said he had spoken directly with the Pope at least twice since Sunday and that Benedict had personally approved a statement he released on the condom question, including how adamant the Pope was.

Pope's courage

Benedict's papacy has suffered from frequent communications missteps. But this time, it appeared that the Pope was sending an intentional message.

Lombardi said he had asked Benedict if he had recognized the risk in publishing a book of interviews in a complex media landscape where his words might be "misunderstood."

"The Pope smiled," Lombardi said.

Lombardi praised Benedict for his "courage" in confronting the problem.

"He did it because he believed that it was a serious, important question in the world of today," Lombardi said, adding the Pope wanted to give his perspective on the need for greater humanized, responsible sexuality.

Helping fight AIDS

"What the Pope said about the use of condoms to prevent illness certainly is significant and helps the comprehensive fight against AIDS in Africa," said Mario Macaraeg, the spokesperson for the Caritas Internationalis, or Confederation of Catholic charities based in Rome that runs 400 AIDS clinics in 16 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

During the decades of debate about condoms, the rhetoric of voices from inside the Church has typically been harsh and unforgiving, increasingly louder—especially in Africa.

When a committee of Irish bishops issued a document in 1987 arguing that public AIDS prevention programs should not undermine traditional condoms, they were roundly criticized by Vatican officials, including Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict, who was then head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vatican's doctrinal office.

In 2009, the Southern African Bishops Conference issued a landmark pastoral letter, which said that in a case of a married couple in which one partner was HIV positive, the other was not, the use of "appropriate" prevention to protect the spread of AIDS was acceptable.

That notion had gained wider acceptance in the Church, as it became clear in 2004 when a priest from the conservative Opus Dei movement wrote an article that also supported the concept.

HIV cases falling

The latest developments came on a day when UN officials announced that the number of new HIV cases has fallen significantly—thanks to condom use—and a UN medical journal published a study showing that a daily pill could help gay men stop the spread of the virus among gay men.

The groundbreaking shift would appear likely to surprise any public criticism from Catholic conservatives, who insisted that the Pope was merely reaffirming the Church's moral teaching.

Conservatives have feared that a sustained like this would give support to Catholics who want to challenge the Church's ban on artificial contraception in an environment where they feel they are under siege from a secular, anti-Catholic culture.

Degrees of evil

Msgr. Jacques Fantoni, an expert on the Vatican's bioethics advisory board, said the Pope was articulating the theological idea that there are degrees of evil.

"Contraception is not the worst evil. The Church does not say it is good, but The Church does not see it as the worst," he told The AP. "Abortion is far worse. Dosing on HIV is criminal. That is absolute irresponsibility." *Reports from AP and New York Times News Service*

'Survey has to say what's in reproductive health bill'

From page A1

"The survey must explain what the bill contains... but it did not. It only asked whether you want family planning," Ilagan said in reports in the sidelines of a forum hosted by the Church-run Radio Veritas at Universidad de Manila yesterday.

"Who would answer 'No' to that?" he asked. "But if the survey also asked whether you would accept help that would cause abortion, people would answer differently."

Independent polls

In 2000, independent surveys showed that more than 70 percent of adult Filipinos want ed the passage of the RH bill, which seeks to require government to distribute contraceptives, free like condoms, pills and IUDs, and to provide family planning education in public schools.

Stranded by students, the public forum dubbed "Talakayan sa Bayan, 101 RH Bill: Mali Ba Ito?" was aimed at underlining provisions of the bill being debated by the Catholic Church and advocates of the measure.

Representing the Church's stand were Bacani and Bataclan Bap. Anthony Galvez. Standing in for the RH bill supporters were former Akbayan Rep. Risa Hontiveros-Baraquel, one of the coauthors of the measure in the previous Congress.

Bacani cautioned that while the Church understood the intentions of the proponents of the bill to empower the health needs of Filipino women and children, it was the "means of the intention that we cannot measure."

Specific questions

Bacani said that before we can say we are to be conducted, respondents must be informed of the provisions of the bill. Surveys must also ask specific, not broad, questions.

For her part, Ilagan said that the previous survey results in favor to the RH bill could be validated with the House of Representatives.

"You could check with the House members and the senators if the survey result of 80 percent plus Filipinos approving the RH bill still holds true," she said.

Debate in House

In the House, Pope Benedict XVI's comments on condom use yesterday stirred a debate that zeroed in on the parliamentary hearing on the RH measure. (Story on Page A7)

Akbayan Rep. Walden Bello spurred the debate when he ignored the Pontiff while referring to the need to pass RH bill before a packed audience of legislators and advocates from both camps.

This drew quick retorts from colleagues who cautioned him against ignoring the Pope in public.

"We are very happy to note that the Pope has come around to our point of view with respect to certain issues such as the use of artificial means of contraception," Bello said in statement of disagreement.

Bracing the increasingly serious atmosphere, he added in jest: "My sources in the Vatican said this was specially revealed for our session... I'm just kidding."

Invoking the Vatican

Manila Rep. Amado Bagatsing quickly interposed and inquired if the Pope had a new spokesperson. "He should not abuse the parliamentary powers that are bare by invoking the Vatican. Let's wait for him to clear up. It's not good if we'd already ridicule the Pope," he said.

Davao Oriental Rep. Nelly Cuaso agreed with his colleague's manifestation, and said: "I think we should be respectful of our religious leaders, and not ignore them or scorn."

Bikolnon Rep. Rodolfo Fabian, the chair of the committee on population and family relations that opened hearings on an RH bills, said the comments of Bagatsing and Cuaso were "well taken."

The Pontiff' said in his recent book "Light of the World" that the RH bill and other measures could see condom as "a first step of moralization" but said this was not the "moral and real solution" to HIV/AIDS.

Benedict also reaffirmed Church teaching opposing artificial contraception, and reiterated the Church position that abortion and the destruction of those RH measures, foreign funding agencies, such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), would come in and help implement the program.

In July 2006, a year after she mailed her three terms in Congress as representative of Aurora, Castillo led provincial officials in crafting and passing an ordinance creating a reproductive health, family planning and responsible parenthood.

Political will

Among the ordinance's features are the building of information drives on reproductive health, training of barangay health workers and distribution of contraceptives in the province.

The ordinance campaign included lectures on responsible parenthood, birth spacing and nutrition programs in relation to sustaining a healthy family.

Castillo said lawmakers who supported the RH bill should not waver and must have a strong political will to fight for its passage.

Teaching on contraception

Also weighing in on the matter, Fr. Eric Genilo of the John J. Carroll Institute on Church and Social Issues said the Pontiff's comments neither changed Church teaching on contraception nor endorsed condemnation.

"It doesn't change the Church position that the best way to prevent HIV is the humanization of sexuality. One should have responsible sexual behavior," he said.

Former Sen. Francisco Tatad, a member of the International Right to Life Federation, said: "I don't believe the country has anything to do with the RH bill."

House Minority Leader Edcel Lagman, Iloilo, Manuel Roxas Rep. Rodolfo Biazon, Akbayan Rep. Kaka Bag-ao, and Gabriela Rep. Emmeline Luz Ilagan and former de Jesus explained the RH bill as they were supporting.

"The denial to confine a reproductive health and population development bill ... not because I've lost my sense of morality. On the contrary, my close colleagues, Akbayan's decision to champion the RH bill has always been a moral decision," Bag-ao said.

Afterward, advocates for and against the bill left from various sectors were allowed to spell out their positions.

An official from the Department of Justice said their opposed is be no violation of the Constitution by the RH bills, while an official from the Department of Health expressed full support for the measures.

Upon fertilization

Tatad feared the mass marketing question to the RH bill proponents. On they agree with the Church position that human life must be protected upon fertilization?

"Is this the same position you're taking with the RH bill? It doesn't seem to be clear. That's why there's reason for some to be confused. I'm not saying that some form of abortion," he said.

The Jesuit priest said the Constitution stated that the State shall protect the life of the unborn upon conception but did not specify if this meant before or after implantation of the embryo in the womb.

La Niña to linger until May; wet holidays seen

THE LA NIÑA weather phenomenon, which brings more rains to the country, will remain until May next year, People can expect a wet holiday season more higher than average rainfall are expected in fall to the next four months.

This is according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa), which nevertheless said that the dry season would still be felt in the country mostly of March, April and May.

But because of La Niña, typhoon entrances that takes place when there is an observed cooling of the sea surface in the Pacific, there will be more rainfall than usual during the summer.

The La Niña condition in the Pacific Ocean has also been described as "moderate to strong," based on global advisories.

"There will still be a dry season. If there are 10 days of rain [in the dry season], it may go up to 15 to 20 days. There will be more days of rain," according to weather specialist Anthony Lucero.

As for the coming months, Lucero said most of the country would experience more than the normal amount of rain in December but not January. November, December and January are the peak months of La Niña.

The areas that could expect to be wetter than usual are most of Luzon, Isabela, Quirino, northern Luzon including Palawan, the Visayas and northern Mindanao.

Pagasa is advising the public to take precautions against flooding, landslides and landslides.

One to two tropical cyclones could also be expected in December, while one tropical cyclone is forecast for January. Leila B. Salaverria

Your No. 1 Choice for Office Machines!

Also Available

WINDSOR MANSION — OXFORD MANSION — PASIG ROYALE MANSION

812-2222 • 687-3333 • 567-3333 • 242-1212

www.CITILAND.net

ALL-IN FARES AT
EXCEPTIONAL VALUE

KUALA LUMPUR/PENANG/
BALI (DENPASAR)
FROM USD 380
RETURN

700 — 880 — 1,000 — 1,100

Supreme Court of the Philippines
Judicial and Bar Council
Manila

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Judicial and Bar Council announces that the following are applicants for judgeship positions:

MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES (MTCC) (REGION III) SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY, BULACAN (Br.1,2 & 3): ABEJA, Benigno C.; AGUSTIN, Reggie N.; AZUCENA, Rodolfo Jr. P.; BALLESTEROS, German M.F.; BAYARA, Jimmy Edmund G.; BELARMINO, Benjamin Jr. C.; BENABAYE, Raul R.; DAVID, Arleen Liza M.; DE GRANO, Agnes Aaron L.; DE LOS REYES, Gerlyn T.; ELEPANTE, Mary Kleen C.; EVANGELISTA, Richard G.; GUERRERO, Ma. Christine F.; JERADIO, Alexandria S.; LIM, Elinda O.; LLABRES, Lady Rochelle S.; LLAMAS-WARES, Lyn L.; MACARAIG, Allan Dexter P.; MAYNGO, Erlan S.; MOLINA, Richard Dennis G.; MOZO, Esther B.; ONTALAN, Orven N.; PIDAO, Sandeen C.; QUINTANO, Jemma M.; RASA, Liberlan R.; RODRIGAZO, Annalyn S.; RODRIGUEZ, Tyrenda L.; SARA, Nicasio G.; SAGAYO, Shirley Maria Ana G.; SORESCA, Arlon C.; TORIBIO, Joefferson S.; TORRIJOS, Ronald O.; VERMES, Eva-ann A.; ZARSADIAS, Ramon P. **(REGION VII) TALISAY CITY, CEBU (Br.2):** BELCINA, Potenciano Jr. C.; BORGALEA, Cesar F.; DEGORA, Darlene A.; ESTRADA, Arnold Amer R.; FERNANDEZ, Grace V.; LUPENA, Joel Socrates S.; OSUANG, Charina N. **(REGION XIII) LIANGA CITY, LANAO DEL NORTE (Drs.3,4 & 5):** BALINONG, Ahmad G.; DAJAO, Fe L.; DATU, Sadar M.; JABINAL, Palmer R.; JALAMBO, Jolphy U.; MACARAYA, Joel Bellue A. M.; MACARAYA, Rhoda P.; MAMUTUK, Jamel T.; MARAMOT, Billie G.; MENCIAS, Angel C.; OPELIANA, Silvestre A. D.; RAPOL, Francis L.; RUELO, Earl Charlo J.; YULABING, Sharyll B.

MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT (MTC) (REGION VI) SAN JOAQUIN, ILOILO (Br.1): CERCADO, Steven P.; ENDRINAL, Mandalvie G.; OROZCO, Irene E.; SERQUIÑA, Ma. Elena H.; PABILLA, Fortunato Jr. M.; PASCO, Lyra B.; PENETRANTE, Mendinola A.

The public may submit to this JBC exam complaint, report, or opposition (in ten legible copies) against any of the aforesaid candidates **not later than 6 DECEMBER 2018 (Monday).**

All applicants for the above-mentioned judicial positions must submit to the JBC ASAP via fax, mail or e-mail their updated JBC Form 1 (Revised September 2007); proof of age and Filipino citizenship; and 2018 Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth (SALN); Income Tax Return (ITR); BIR Clearance; NBI, BIR, DBC and Police Clearances; Medical Certificate; and other requirements before the date of their interview. **Those who fail to submit the necessary requirements shall neither be interviewed nor considered for nomination.**

24 November 2018.

ENRIQUETA ESGUERRA-VIDAL
Clerk of Court &
JBC Ex Officio Secretary

To Our Valued Clients and Tenants

MEGAWORLD

Megaworld Corporation announces its shift to a new IP-PBX for its **Account Management Department (AMD)** at its head office at The World Centre, 330 Senator Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

This applies to the **AMD offices** located on the 16th, 17th and 28th floors. Our new TRUNK LINE is

888-MEGA
(6342)

By pressing 0, an operator will assist in connecting you to the local number of the person you wish to contact.

Burned bodies of 2 islanders found

SEOUL/BEIJING, South Korea ... South Korea on Wednesday found the burned bodies of two islanders killed in a North Korean artillery attack, marking the first civilian deaths in the incident and dramatically escalating the tensions in the region's latest crisis.

The South Korean Coast Guard pulled the bodies of two men, believed to be in their 60s, from a destroyed construction site on the tiny island of Yeonpyeong, near the disputed maritime border with North Korea.

The North's artillery barrages targeting the island on Tuesday also killed at least two South Korean Marines and wounded 18 other people in what UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called one of the "gravest incidents" since the end of the Korean War.

South Korea's troops, which returned fire during Tuesday's bombing, obviously remained on high alert as witnessed evacuees from the island streamed into the port city of Incheon, greeting tearful family members and yelling harrowing tales of destruction.

"I heard the sound of artillery, and I felt that something was flying over my head," said Lim Jung-eun, a 36-year-old housewife who escaped Yeonpyeong island with her three children, one of whom, a 9-month-old baby girl, she carried on her back. "There is the monument caught on fire."

Torpedo attack

Civilian deaths are rare in clashes between the Koreas. Most of the skirmishes between the Koreas involve military casualties.

In March, North Korea was blamed for launching a torpedo that sank the South Korean warship Cheonan while on routine patrol, killing 46 sailors. South Korea at the time rallied in the worst military attack on the country since the war. Pyongyang denied responsibility.

The North's most notorious act of terrorism was the 1987 bombing of a South Korean airliner that claimed 115 lives. And in 1996, 60,000 South Korean soldiers hunted down a group of South Korean spies who slipped ashore from a submarine and killed three civilians and a South Korean navy private while roaming the mountainside for weeks.

After the attack on Yeonpyeong, more than 100 people arrived on Wednesday on the first ships from the island, the Coast Guard said. They were greeted with hugs and tears by family members at the port soon, mostly the elderly, were taken to a line of ambulances waiting nearby.

EVACUEES South Korean survivors stream into the port city of Incheon on Wednesday. •

There were dozens of decorated homes and parents.

"Right after I saw the news, I called my daughter," said Chung Soo-son, a 55-year-old man from nearby Ganges City. "She was crying and told me the windows of her home were all shattered."

Unpredictable

He was in Iraq, a Marine on the island, was not hurt and will stay on the island. Chung said he only slept one hour because of worries about his daughter and grandchildren, who were also safe.

"I'll never allow my daughter and my grandchildren to go back to Yeonpyeong Island," Chung said. "North Korea is so unpredictable."

In the crowd at the port was a 66-year-old South Korean man, who was waiting for his 46-year-old son and his daughter-in-law.

"I'm always worried about my son, because North Korea has always committed provocations near the island," the man, who would only identify himself by his family name Kim.

"North Korea has not changed at all," Kim said. He said he still holds bitter memories of the Korean War. "They are so cruel."

North's warning

South Korea on Wednesday said it would strengthen military forces on the disputed western waters near Yeonpyeong and to halt aid to the communist North, while the South warned of more military strikes if the bomb manufacturer "even 0.001 millimetres."

At a military hospital in Seongnam, just outside Seoul, relatives wailed in grief as they filed out of a memorial on Wednesday for the two Marines killed in the artillery barrage.

"Bring him back!" Kim O-bok, 58, retired out about her 22-year-old son, Seo Jeong-woo, as she left funeral and relatives supported her. AP

Obama sends nuke aircraft carrier group

From page A1

could use this as a form of preemptive deterrence," said Lee Dong-min of Yonsei University in Seoul.

"This exercise is defensive in nature," US Forces Korea said in a statement. "While planned well before yesterday's unprovoked artillery attack, it demonstrates the strength of the ROK (South Korea) US alliance bound by commitment to regional stability through deterrence."

The move appeared aimed at reinforcing heavy pressure on China to rein in North Korea after the relative restraint Seoul displayed following the US alliance's Seoul ally. Two South Korean soldiers and two civilians were killed, and homes are ablaze in the border islands in the region since the Korean War ended in 1953.

But Seoul was heading an alarmed on a canny western diplomat although developments were being closely watched by office workers on TV and in newspapers. Editorials stepped up pressure on President Lee Myung-bak to respond more tangibly than he has to past provocations by the North and fave small groups held anti-North Korea protests.

Pyongyang said the firing was in reaction to military drills conducted by South Korea in the area at the time but Seoul said it had not been firing at the North.

Outraged

US President Barack Obama, walked up to the early hours to discuss the artillery strikes, said he was outraged and pressed the South to stop its provocative actions.

Although US officials said the joint exercise was scheduled before the attack by North Korea, it was reminiscent of a crisis in 1996 when then President Bill Clinton sent an aircraft carrier group through the Taiwan Strait after Beijing test-fired missiles into the channel between the mainland and Taiwan.

Tuesday's bombardment targeted at global markets, already unsettled by worries over Ireland's debt problem and leading to losses in key risky assets.

But South Korea's markets, after sharp falls, recovered last gradually.

'Semi-state of war'

"If you look back at the last five years when we've had crises, they were all seen as temporary matters," said Yoon Yeo-sang, of Kyung Hee University in Seoul. "But South Korea is the only country since the war Pyongyang denied responsibility.

The North's most notorious act of terrorism was the 1987 bombing of a South Korean airliner that claimed 115 lives. And in 1996, 60,000 South Korean soldiers hunted down a group of South Korean spies who slipped ashore from a submarine and killed three civilians and a South Korean navy private while roaming the mountainside for weeks.

After the attack on Yeonpyeong, more than 100 people arrived on Wednesday on the first ships from the island, the Coast Guard said. They were greeted with hugs and tears by family members at the port soon, mostly the elderly, were taken to a line of ambulances waiting nearby.

EVACUEES South Korean survivors stream into the port city of Incheon on Wednesday. •

There were dozens of decorated homes and parents.

"Right after I saw the news, I called my daughter," said Chung Soo-son, a 55-year-old man from nearby Ganges City. "She was crying and told me the windows of her home were all shattered."

Unpredictable

He was in Iraq, a Marine on the island, was not hurt and will stay on the island. Chung said he only slept one hour because of worries about his daughter and grandchildren, who were also safe.

"I'll never allow my daughter and my grandchildren to go back to Yeonpyeong Island," Chung said. "North Korea is so unpredictable."

In the crowd at the port was a 66-year-old South Korean man, who was waiting for his 46-year-old son and his daughter-in-law.

"I'm always worried about my son, because North Korea has always committed provocations near the island," the man, who would only identify himself by his family name Kim.

"North Korea has not changed at all," Kim said. He said he still holds bitter memories of the Korean War. "They are so cruel."

North's warning

South Korea on Wednesday said it would strengthen military forces on the disputed western waters near Yeonpyeong and to halt aid to the communist North, while the South warned of more military strikes if the bomb manufacturer "even 0.001 millimetres."

At a military hospital in Seongnam, just outside Seoul, relatives wailed in grief as they filed out of a memorial on Wednesday for the two Marines killed in the artillery barrage.

"Bring him back!" Kim O-bok, 58, retired out about her 22-year-old son, Seo Jeong-woo, as she left funeral and relatives supported her. AP

Obama sends nuke aircraft carrier group

From page A1

could use this as a form of preemptive deterrence," said Lee Dong-min of Yonsei University in Seoul.

"This exercise is defensive in nature," US Forces Korea said in a statement. "While planned well before yesterday's unprovoked artillery attack, it demonstrates the strength of the ROK (South Korea) US alliance bound by commitment to regional stability through deterrence."

The move appeared aimed at reinforcing heavy pressure on China to rein in North Korea after the relative restraint Seoul displayed following the US alliance's Seoul ally. Two South Korean soldiers and two civilians were killed, and homes are ablaze in the border islands in the region since the Korean War ended in 1953.

But Seoul was heading an alarmed on a canny western diplomat although developments were being closely watched by office workers on TV and in newspapers. Editorials stepped up pressure on President Lee Myung-bak to respond more tangibly than he has to past provocations by the North and fave small groups held anti-North Korea protests.

Pyongyang said the firing was in reaction to military drills conducted by South Korea in the area at the time but Seoul said it had not been firing at the North.

Outraged

US President Barack Obama, walked up to the early hours to discuss the artillery strikes, said he was outraged and pressed the South to stop its provocative actions.

Although US officials said the joint exercise was scheduled before the attack by North Korea, it was reminiscent of a crisis in 1996 when then President Bill Clinton sent an aircraft carrier group through the Taiwan Strait after Beijing test-fired missiles into the channel between the mainland and Taiwan.

Tuesday's bombardment targeted at global markets, already unsettled by worries over Ireland's debt problem and leading to losses in key risky assets.

But South Korea's markets, after sharp falls, recovered last gradually.

'Semi-state of war'

"If you look back at the last five years when we've had crises, they were all seen as temporary matters," said Yoon Yeo-sang, of Kyung Hee University in Seoul. "But South Korea is the only country since the war Pyongyang denied responsibility.

"We're in a semi-state of war," South Korean navy guard Kim Dong-jin told farmers in the port city of Incheon where many residents of Yeonpyeong Island fled to seek refuge after the North's bombardment triggered a fire scare.

Despite the threats, regional powers made clear they were looking for a diplomatic way to calm things down.

Massive retaliation

South Korea, its armed forces technically superior though about half the size of the North's, was restless after being warned of "massive retaliation" if its warships attacked again.

But the war exploded to avoid any misreading the threat of retaliation which might spark an escalation of fighting across the Cold War's last frontier.

Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan called on China to help rein in the hermit state.

"We're in a semi-state of war," South Korean navy guard Kim Dong-jin told farmers in the port city of Incheon where many residents of Yeonpyeong Island fled to seek refuge after the North's bombardment triggered a fire scare.

Despite the threats, regional powers made clear they were looking for a diplomatic way to calm things down.

Massive retaliation

South Korea, its armed forces technically superior though about half the size of the North's, was restless after being warned of "massive retaliation" if its warships attacked again.

But the war exploded to avoid any misreading the threat of retaliation which might spark an escalation of fighting across the Cold War's last frontier.

Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan called on China to help rein in the hermit state.

China has long propped up the Pyongyang leadership, worried that a collapse of the North could bring instability to its own borders and allow scores of a unified Korea that would be dominated by the United States, the key ally of the South.

In a clear nod to Beijing during a visit to the Chinese capital, US envoy to North Korea Stephen Bosworth said: "We call on the leadership of the international community to condemn the (DPRK) (North Korean) acts and to make clear that they expect the DPRK to cease all provocations and implement its denuclearization commitments."

On Tuesday Obama said he would urge China to lift Pyongyang "there are a set of international rules they must abide by."

'Old guns'

Beijing said it had agreed with the United States to try to restart talks among regional powers over North Korea's nuclear weapons program.

A number of analysts argued that Tuesday's attack may have been an attempt by North Korean leader Kim Jong Il to raise his bargaining position ahead of close-mannered talks which he has used in the past to win concessions and aid from the outside world, in particular the United States.

"It's like Kim's old game to get some attention and some necessary goodies," said Go Chung-min, strategic studies professor at Tamkang University in Taipei.

Several analysts believe the attacks may also have been driven by domestic politics, with the ruling Kim desperate to give a lift to his youngest son, named as heir apparent to the family dynasty in September but who has little clout support in the military. Reuters

50,000 Pinoys in ROK put on Alert Level 1

From page A1

Consul General Sylvia Marategui said the increase that Filipinos in the country had been notified that they were on alert following South Korea's artillery attacks on Yeonpyeong Island that killed two South Korean soldiers and two civilians, and wounded 18 others.

"We are on heightened alert. We are advising Filipinos to be informed of news and to be aware of their personal documents," Marategui said.

Alert Level 1 is the lowest of a three-tiered signal established by the embassy for Filipino nationals in South Korea. Filipinos are advised to monitor their movements under Alert Level 2, while Alert Level 3 means relocation.

No travel advisory

In Manila, spokesperson Ed Isardo Malaya of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said there were no Filipinos on Yeonpyeong and that the department now no need to issue an advisory against travel to the country.

"We're hoping tensions are temporary in nature. We're not suspending any programs or services. Those who are supposed to visit South Korea or work there can proceed to do so, taking into account that they have an increased alert," Malaya said.

He said that the Philippine Ambassador in Seoul, Luis Cruz, reported to Manila yesterday that "all is quiet at this time."

The DFA said in Manila that it were prepared to implement contingency plans for evacuation in coordination with other government agencies.

"Everything is in place. We have an updated plan," said Undersecretary Esteban Conejos in a phone interview with Inquirer.net. "We will evacuate all if and when needed."

68,000 Filipinos

Around 50,000 Filipinos are in South Korea, most of them in the major cities and working in manufacturing companies, Marategui said.

The embassy is prepared to relocate them if necessary, she said, and has established three pick-up points—in Seoul, Busan and Daegu—since July following the sinking of a South Korean warship allegedly carried out by North Korea.

Since Filipinos are difficult to reach, the embassy coordinates with local church groups, migrant organizations and the local police to notify them of developments, Marategui said.

"We have updated a contingency plan since July, including updated layers of contacts in case of conflict," she said. So far, the Philippine Embassy does not see the need to raise the alert level, although officials have been monitoring the unrest.

Philippine Airlines and Cebu Pacific announced yesterday that flights between Manila and Seoul remain unaffected. With reports in Manila from Ed Isa, Paolo G. Montecillo, Jerome Aning and Dyvonne Uy Inquirer.net

Gossamer sea creature found off Philippine waters

From page A1

smell underwater.

How to science

Using a remotely operated underwater, a trio of marine biologists led by Karen Osborn of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California found the previously undiscovered animals in the Celebes Sea at a depth of 2.6 kilometres.

"I was really excited," Osborn said of her first glimpse. "It was so tantalizing because the animal was so different from anything previously described, with its elaborate headgear."

Specimens two about 100 to 200 metres above the ocean floor, a layer rich in undiscovered fauna and flora, scientists say.

"I would estimate that when exploring the deep ocean scientists, more than half the animals we see are undescribed or were to species," Osborn said in an e-mail.

Rich in rapidness

Up to now, the region has been largely inaccessible because tools for collecting samples either snapped along the ocean floor, or trampled specimens so badly that they were useless or unrecognizable once brought to the surface.

The spindleworm, Xenoholothuria cornea, does not appear to be a predator, feeding instead on bits of so-called "marine snow," a rain of sinking matter, organic plants and animals, fecal material and cast-off mucus.

Coral Triangle

"But the most appealing something food, but the large aggregates are rich in nutrients to feed on," Osborn said.

The Celebes Sea, a deep pocket basin isolated from surrounding deep waters, is part of the Coral Triangle, a conservation hot spot due to its diverse lifeforms and unique geological history.

The squishworm is no oddball from Halloween animals that it organized the creation of a new genus, the level above species in the taxonomical ladder for classifying animals and plants.

The study was published in Biology Letters, a journal of the British Royal Society. AFP

SQUISHY!!!! For more deepest than in name would suggest.

Bong, Jinggoy slam Hayden: He stinks

From page A1

Kho's records in practice.

Revilla challenged Kho to "bite that and face squarely his cases."

A colleague and friend of Revilla, Senate President Pro Tempore Jinggoy Estrada, said that "sen athletic" like Kho should just shut up.

Revilla said he ordered the Senate police (PNP) to 2000 mainly to protect the women who were interviewed by the inmates of the prison Kho allegedly took without the knowledge of his sex partners.

"I gained nothing from it. I just got an enemy and that is Hayden Kho. He is an unbridled person, with a title. I respect some doctors in him. He disappoints me, including the people around him," Revilla said.

BONG REVILLA: Be a man

JINGGOY ESTRADA: Sen athlet, shut up

HAYDEN KHO: He's a nervous, deluded

KATRINA HALILI: Whatever happened to...

He said his person in his right mind would do what Kho did to the women on the video. "I am not narrow-minded on what is right and wrong," he said.

The arrest war between Revilla and Hayden Kho has been reignited because of comments that the cosmetic surgeon allegedly made in an interview with the Senator's Lifestyle section, according to showbiz columnist and TV host Lolit Solis.

The article, "What happens when coming back to the workforce" that appeared on Nov. 7, depicted Kho and girlfriend, Vivek Bela, as victims of the sex video controversy, Solis said.

"It was said that Kho's love story is portrayed by a cute couple," Solis told the Inquirer by phone.

"Bong Revilla's statement is added to this by commenting on how easy it was for Filipinos to forget. Bong said that while it's OK to forgive, we should not forget how this person violated her woman, and so should more. Bong said jokes should still be punished for what he did," Solis said.

It was in a recent interview on the TV5 program "Paparazzi" that Kho accused the senator of being narrow-minded. He chose his statement said.

"He said Bong should stop being bitter. People have already forgiven him and the senator should just accept that. He missed Bong's point entirely," she added.

Pinoys are 2nd biggest group of immigrants in US

WASHINGTON—More than 12 million foreigners have taken up legal residence in the United States, with Mexicans topping the list, followed by Filipinos and Chinese, a Department of Homeland Security report said on Tuesday.

By January 2009, the census of legal, permanent residents in the United States stood at 13.1 million people, 7.9 million of whom had met the requirements to become US citizens, the department said.

The population of legal residents include 5.2 million Mexicans, 1,950,000 Filipinos, 1,350,000 Chinese, 900,000 Indians, 620,000 Dominicans, 360,000 Cubans, 320,000 Canadians and 320,000 Salvadorans.

Other Latin American nationalities with significant resident populations include 230,000 Colombians, 180,000 Guatemalans and 150,000 Peruvians, the department added.

The report also said that from 1980-2008, 26 million foreigners obtained permanent residence in this country, including nine million (or 36 percent) who became US citizens and another 3.1 million who either returned to their home countries or died. AFP

mistercool
THE ONLY FAN THAT CAN BEAT EXTREME HEAT!
(02) 672-3827

idec
Split Type Wall Mounted Aircon
1hp-P16,500
FIVESTAR UNITED
FREE INSTALLATION

S-TANK Unitank
STAINLESS STEEL WATER STORAGE TANKS

INDUSTRIAL HI-PRESSURE CLEANERS
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INC.

Buy Pinoy
Jobs
NOV. 25-28, 2010
FREE ENTRANCE
admit ONE

BDO Private Bank
Wealth Management
Driven by your trust in our partnership

A successful partnership is based on long-term commitment. We provide expertise and guidance in delivering dynamic wealth management solutions to secure your future, in this generation and the next.
BDO Private Bank. Committed to excellence, committed to your future.
We find ways

St Giles Hotel
NOW OPEN
Be central
In the centre of business.
In the centre of convenience.
In the centre of comfort.
Promotional Offer starts from Php 3,285*

(*Superior room, includes breakfast for one person, subject to 0.6% local tax, 12% VAT and 10% service charge. Rates are subject to change.)
10% Discount for 2 nights stay and above
For best deals, log on to www.stgiles-hotels.com
St Giles Hotel
Makati Avenue corner Kalayaan Avenue, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines 1231
Tel: (632) 908 9000 • Fax: (632) 908 9089
Email: reservations@StGilesManila.com • Website: www.StGilesManila.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Lim's rule

EDITORIAL

IT IS only right that Malacañang will revise the statutory proclamations intended to benefit those soldiers who took part in any of the three military uprisings of the Arroyo years: the 2003 Oakwood incident, the 2006 barracks standoff, the 2007 Peninsula Manila siege. As legislators from both the House and the Senate have pointed out, during consecutive hearings or in media interviews, Proclamations No. 50 is full of holes. Some of the holes are big enough for a tank, with an unrepentant Danilo Lim riding on it, to pass through.

Sen. Teofisto Guingona III, a partymate of President Aquino, revealed for instance that one of the most controversial sections of the executive issuance, Section 5, which declares that "This proclamation shall take effect immediately upon the signing thereof," was copied from Proclamation No. 80 of President Corazon Aquino, issued in February 1987. "But you must remember that when President Cory made that proclamation, she had executive and legislative powers at the same time. It was a revolutionary government at the time so that's why it took effect immediately." (This legal blunder is, quite literally, not for the books.)

In our view, however, the biggest hole is the proclamation's silence on admissions of guilt, or even an expression of regret or remorse. Like devils quoting Scripture, conniving lawyers can quote convenient interpretations from jurisprudence on the need for such an admission or repentance, as a precondition for amnesty. But the very real risk the lack of such a precondition poses to the body politic is made clear by the forthright statements of Lim, West Point graduate, former commanding officer of the elite Fort Scout Ranger Regiment, candidate for senator—and repeat coup plotter. At the joint committee hearings in the House last week, Lim defended his conduct in February 2006, when he tried to convince the Armed Forces chief of staff to withdraw the AFP's support for President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo: "The AFP has a right to determine if there's cause for uprising as a soldier who values his duty seriously, that's my interpretation. I'm invoking the same motivations. Not more adventurism. I maintain what we did is not without constitutional basis. While many disagree, I stand by that." He insisted that new controversial provision in the 1987 Constitution that characterized the armed services as "the protector of the people."

To be sure, Lim has been nothing but consistent—at least since February 2006. Before that, as for example in 2005 when the shadowy Young Officers Union, which he had founded, seemed to surface once again, he denied his involvement and pointedly declined to invoke the very same constitutional provision he uses now.

We wonder if he is aware of the irony of it all. The presence-of-the-people provision was one of those post-Marcos innovations in the Constitution, designed precisely to prevent the further use of the Armed Forces for political or partisan purposes. Lim joined the service at a time when the AFP had been completely corrupted by Marcos, when officers and men, like Lim himself, thought it was only natural for them to take an active part both in government and in business. The new provision was designed to help reverse the thinking of the members of the military, to remove them from the exercise of political power and to decolonize the political culture. Now Lim cites this very provision as his justification for attempting to seize political control.

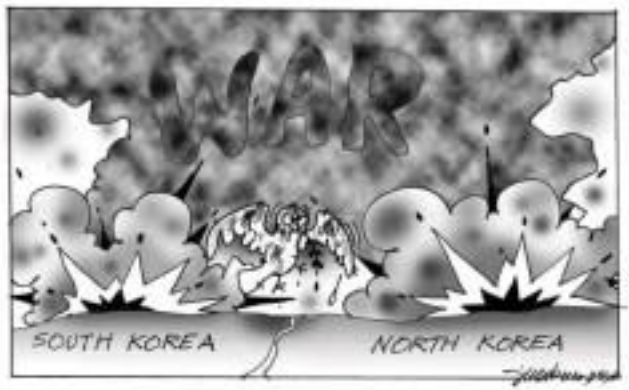
Indeed, he improves on the provision, expanding responsibility to an institutional right. "The AFP has a right to determine if there's cause for uprising." This is, as reflexives, a deeply subversive statement. It subverts the fundamental principle of civilian supremacy over the military (meaning it undermines the democratic tradition where civilian leaders decide how to use the massive power of the taxpayer-funded military). It effectively trains the guns the people have provided the military, not on the enemies of society, but on the people themselves (this is what being engaged in determining if there's "cause for uprising" means). Not least, it gives uneducated men (and women) like Lim the right to intervene.

There is no such right; the Constitution Lim invokes removed it once and for all. The revised proclamation must at least require acknowledgment of this fact, as a precondition to amnesty.

Publisher Isaac Tourot
Editor in Chief Letty Jimena Magsanoc
Managing Editor Juan Mo. D. Mallari
Associate Editor Abraham S. Iglesias
Associate Editor for Books Alejo Rosario A. Esmeralda
Opinion Editor Juan V. Mercado
News Editor Antonio T. Enriquez Jr. • Chief, Regional Operations Hilda Pajarillo
Chief News Desk Editor Rubén R. Arjonillo
Photo Editor Pinky Rose B. Bautista Jr.
Senior Desk Editor Juan P. Sumaoang Jr.
Editorial Consultant Antonio Zumel
Chief Photographer Ernie U. Sevidad
Art & Design Director Lisbet A. Velasco

Board Chairman Roman R. Pineda
President Alejandro Pineda Roman III
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing Simeon R. Rebong
Vice President for Advertising Hilario B. Olaguera
Vice President for Web Development Gian G. Lao
Vice President for Finance Edi M. Valdellon
AVP for Circulation Ricardo Andres R. Chancoco
Corporate Affairs Manager Carmen R. Kalaw-Ong

All rights reserved. No part may be reproduced in any form or by any means without the prior written permission of the publisher. Unauthorized use may be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.



Television against violence

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THE ARGUMENTS against allowing the mass media, particularly television, to do live reports of courtroom proceedings are well understood. Live reports of testimonies and material evidence, unfiltered by legal norms of admissibility, may lead the public to prejudge a case. The sheer presence of television cameras inside the court room can affect the flow of the trial and alter the demeanor of the judge, lawyers and witnesses. But, all these notwithstanding, the long-term positive effects that a televised trial of the Maguindanao mas. massacre far outweigh the injury that this second may suffer in the process.

This view is premised on an understanding of what it takes for Maguindanao and other similarly situated places in the country to make the transition to a less violent social order. The presence of the military in these provinces is not a permanent solution. The residents of Maguindanao, especially those from the ruling families, must see for themselves that the era of warlordism, impunity and unpunished violence is indeed coming to an end.

The trial will give them the chance to understand what it means to live under the rule of law rather than under the rule of strongmen. It will show them that justice is not an abstract ideal but an accessible good, that the suspects are not yet convicted even as they are in custody, that a prosecutor is not another warlord with a different family name but a new social order. A televised trial could be an object lesson in the necessity of non-violent politics not just for the Ampatuans—who have been developed, but, as well, for the Margosatubigs, who have just been installed. They have to be told that this is not about them and their personal arrangements; this is about a nation wanting to consolidate its rule and contain violence to the extreme.

It is perhaps worth remembering that more than half of those who perished in the Maguindanao massacre were media people. They died while tracking their presence to an effort to interrupt violence in the electoral process. The least we could do to honor their memory is to allow media not only to help ensure the transparency of the judicial process, but to keep the problem of warlordism and organized violence alive in the public mind.

Just because we are able to hold regular elections and to replace those who govern us, we may sometimes be led to believe that ours is a democratic society. We know better than that, of course. What we have in reality is a "limited access" social order that pivots around the role of a few powerful families, who have implicitly agreed among themselves to abide by certain rules in the interest of maintaining relative stability. Under these circumstances, political and economic competition is governed by rules and is mediated by organizations. It is thereby less personal and more institutional.

The transition to a modern "open access" society does not occur overnight. It begins within the old society itself. From the inside, others again will come and use violence to maintain the use of violence because it works against their own interests in the long term. This is the thesis of Douglass North, John Wallis and Barry Weingast in their book "Violence and Social Orders." (2009)

In many ways, Philippine society has been undergoing the transition to modernity since independence. We are not quite there yet, but in both the economic and political spheres, we are now seeing more new players who do not come from the traditional elites. This is true in the case, however, in some parts of the country like Maguindanao where the decline of the old royal families only paved the way for the emergence of a new breed of warlords sponsored by Manila politicians. The coddling of the Ampatuans by former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo replicated the model that Ferdinand Marcos had used to install the so-called "Magic Eight" leaders that ruled Iloilo in the 1970s. Those warlords received money, guns, protection, and control of land and trade, in return they delivered the votes.

The most arrangement existed in Maguindanao—one of the most watchful Nov. 23 massacre. The reign of the Ampatuans would have remained undisturbed had the clan's patriarch acceded to the wish of the Maguindanao family, who were then allies, to have it share in the administration of the province. But Andal Ampatuan Jr. would not even hear of it. He had other plans that would set actual shaking power in Maguindanao with another family. As a result, the clan took personal offense when Toto Mamalapatalan insisted with his plan to run for governor of the province. Encouraged by his own connections to the party in power in Manila, and by the fact that Arroyo, the Ampatuans' chief patron, was ending her term as president, the young politician wanted the matter settled at the level of the party.

The tragedy might have been avoided if Arroyo had used the considerable influence she wielded in her party to work out an accommodation. There is information that her intervention was actually sought, but the chose not to do anything. She was very careful not to incur the ire of the powerful Ampatuans who had served her well, and who were the first hand how the world saw the 2004 presidential election.

A nation does not make the transition to a democracy by simply staging elections; it does so by fostering an informed and organized citizenry that dares to stand up to violence. A good way to start is by demonstrating the capacities of the law now that the homicidal oligarchs who continue to dominate little fiefdoms like Maguindanao. That is what a televised trial of the Ampatuans can achieve.

public.lives@gmail.com

Remembering

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I HELD some of the videos last Ghazwa and others in union did for the slain journalists in Maguindanao, and I've never been gladder for any interactive along those lines. Well past due, but still more than welcome.

The videos do not just underline our memory of the event, or make us relive the event all over again, they make us see the event for the first time. Yes, see. "Maguindanao massacre," the label attached to one of the most gruesome crimes in the history of this country, is hotly abstract. Despite the horrific images of blood and gore that splashed on the screen in the aftermath of that atrocity and the sense of immediacy they gave, the crime somehow remained a little distant, a little impersonal. It happened to people we did not know. To be sure our sense of it as a mass insanity made it more blessed for the victims and our months-on-end vow to the heavens for justice, but not with the implacability or burning need to hold on to it and pursue it to the ends of the earth so we'd feel it happened to kin and friends.

The videos make us do so. They put a face to the victims. They make us know them. They make us feel that it happened to our kin and friends. They make us cringe at the thought that with monsters like the Ampatuan mental, this thing could very well happen to our parents, our children, our brothers and sisters. They make us know the pain of loss of the people they left behind. They make us see that the loss could very well be our own. They make us see that the loss is for our own.

The power of these videos lies in the same power the videos of the victims of 9/11 had for many years. In fact it wasn't just videos. Movies produced for them, it was a barrage of news and features, TV documentaries, and movies that delved into the lives of nearly everyone who perished in the Twin Towers of New York, it was concerts, memorials, pilgrimages to ground Zero in honor of the dead and to tell us they were the people who brought them to that pain. In the end, the people who died were no longer just nighers, figures, statistics, nebulous damage to an unseen but brutal war. They were relatives, friends, people they knew.

Of course the power of those images would soon erase time, and not just because of time. It was also because over time the world would wonder how America could see its dead to the last detail of their faces but see no a single one of the dead in Iraq and Afghanistan, lists of thousands of names and thousands of lives whose secrets just reduced to dust from the bombings but were reduced to ciphers, figures, statistics, collateral damage in an unseen but cruel war by the same media that gave a face to the victims of 9/11. But that's another story.

The sight of the videos Jim Libiran and company made promptly made me wonder why they, or some other group, shouldn't do the same thing for the hundreds of political activists who have been murdered over the years. The only one who has seen a face, or name, in that burning shroud, we recall, thanks to the persistence of his sister and the dogged efforts of his family, is Jonas Burgos. Those members are no less gruesome than the Maguindanao massacre, notwithstanding that they lack the blood and gore of the latter, or that they happened beyond the gaze of the public gaze. They are worse in: Their very invisibility, their very silence, their very facelessness makes it so. In the end, impunity is far more shocking than the most shocking scenes of mayhem.

Videos that delve into the lives of those activists, that give a face to those activists, will not only underline our memories of them, they will make us see them and love they died. Those activists are not nighers, figures, statistics, collateral damage in a vile war, they were people like you and me, they were neighbors, friends, parents, children, brothers and sisters. Killed in a cynical effort to keep an illegitimate leader in power. OMG crimes are no less monstrous than the Ampatuans'.

But for the moment, I'll take the videos on the Maguindanao victims as a blessing. Yes many of course ask why the videos dwell in particular on the journalists and not on all of the victims. Ed Lingao gives a perspective on it by expressing an appreciation for what journalists do. The love of the lives of journalists is not just a kin but their friends and friends, it is a love for the public. It is a love for you. Journalists are killed, who will tell your story? Journalists are killed, who will tell the story of your life? Journalists are killed, who will tell the story of your death?

That is what journalists do. They bear witness. Journalists are killed, who will bear witness to your passing?

But in a larger sense, was enough in the end it's overcome of the victims are should grieve over, we should seek justice for, we should remember. Lingao's comments about journalists are a variation on a theme we cut out so long ago by the Lutheran pastor, Martin Niemöller, who lived to hate Germany. He was the one who said: "First they came for the Jews and I didn't speak up because I was a Christian. Then they came for the trade unionists and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. And then they came for the Catholics and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant, and then they came for me and there was no one, no one left to speak up."

We don't speak up for the journalists, we don't speak up for the political activists, we don't speak up for the mere ordinary folk who are murdered in the most ordinary, routine, and facile of ways, nobody will be left to speak up for us when they come to do that to us.

The videos Lingao and company have made speak up not just for the journalists but for all of us. They bear witness. They bear hope. They bear life.

'Stupidity is invincible'

OUTLOOK

Rigoberto Tiglao

• • •

Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr. has been telling his close friends that he never wanted his post. (But right up to the last minute of last month, he had thought that he would merely be the President's private counsel who would be the last to eat decisions he would be signing.

In the Aquino administration scenario a few put at the cafe of once-every-month, Ochoa no doubt has had the last laugh. He's been left out of the loop, even as he seems to have a knack for having media forget his role—or non-role—in the fate of the Department.

Observers of the Philippine presidency can't help but sigh when they look at Ochoa in the trademark denim jeans and untucked short-sleeved shirt and recall the rich, sophisticated and political Cabinet executive secretaries like Marcial Rafael Suñez, Cory Aquino's Joker Arroyo, Estrada's Ronaldo Zamora, Ramos' Teofisto Guingona, and Macapagal-Arroyo's Alberto Romulo, Eduardo Ermita and Leandro Mendoza. Sen. Miriam Defensor's claim that lightweights populate the Cabinet is an understatement in this case.

Now we have an inarticulate executive secretary giggling in an interview with Arnold Clavio, and apparently seen hanging out and drinking in hotel lobbies. "It would be fun to watch him parade over the Sun Yat-Sen Avenue Boundary Crossing, and the other bodies where he has the executive secretary as the chairman of a committee of distinguished officials," one former executive secretary says.

There is much truth to the moniker for the executive secretary of "Little President." Nearly all documents signed by the President have, by law, to be signed by the executive secretary. He approves even the most mundane things, from the travel abroad of public officials to the release of government funds. He is in fact the government chief executive officer, equivalent to the US White House chief of staff, with the President analogously the Chairman of the board. He is the whip cracker in the Cabinet. He represents the President in many inter-departmental committees and corporations.

The real Little President is dancing to junk like Budget Secretary Florencio Abad, who is known as the President's invincible bad luck. It was Abad's draft of MC 108, to which Aquino signed, without even time rather than the one prepared by the executive secretary's staff.

Indeed, it was a shift move by Abad to have his daughter Asha head the Presidential Management Staff (PMS). The PMS, which I headed for nearly two years, is a low-key but potentially the most powerful organization in the Executive Department. I say "potentially" because its power is determined by how much the President trusts the PMS. Organization-wise, the PMS has no rival in the Executive Department as its 300-plus staff has the expertise to quickly prepare a briefing for the President on any issue, from the most basic to the most complex. The PMS that undertakes background research on any officials the President plans to appoint to a position. And it is the PMS which coordinates with every entity in Malacañang, including the Presidential Security Group, on the President's appointments in and out of the office.

The 23-year-old PMS head, whose last post was as Cindy Soliman's girl Friday in a fad in a highly professional, veteran institution. No matter, it is obviously Papa who is really running the PMS, getting reports from, and giving orders to, her over the family's dinner table.

Abad is not only holding the purse strings but is in command of the staff around the President. Ochoa is left as presidential file documents like Aquino signs to make sure there are free of plagiarism.

E-mail: tiglao.inquirer@gmail.com

When ideology is all we have

(This is in reply to my batch mate Atty. Alex Adduru's "Straightlaced" column last Sept. 20, entitled "Ideology is gone". Adduru and I graduated last April, with a degree in BS Broadcast Communication (Cum Laude) honors. I think I know this "Alex" to whom she addressed her letter.)

MADE,

I just read Rilwa's letter to you, and it made me sad.

Several months back we were talking about our respective paths ahead of each of us. The two of us had our plans then, and they did not include graduate studies. For sure it is a matter of determination.

Apparently people on to different things. Just like us then, who have come to accept my choice, keep asking, "Is this what you want to do with your life?" (I cannot fault with a number "But").

Rilwa is no different from my parents. Except perhaps that her countenance is a little extreme she works in the heart of an ideological battleground.

I realize how easy it is to vilify the Left. We have heard all the horror stories, the horrendous and indiscriminate acts, called communists have inflicted on the people, and even among themselves. We were all privy to that (or so we thought). I admit we missed CJP it isn't as if the Left would disappear from. These are facts, written in history books and by anyone who cared to write about the "radical thought" which emerged in the 1970s, when many of the youth opted to go underground and take up arms. It is also true that "purges" occurred, even with comrades harboring opposite views.

Yes, they happened, and if we were so unlucky the history of the Left were closely, they were the first to admit these. Apparently however, the return of the Left have been mostly opportunistic and the military for Mark propaganda.

Looking back, I was of the same mind set as Rilwa when I entered UP Diliman many years ago. I have to do with the ideas. I ignored invitations of mass organizations, choosing to go home and study rather than join the noisy crowd of protesters. But before I knew it, I was one of them. Just like you, Mads.

Now though we belong to the same batch, we weren't very close to each other. What bound us eventually were the causes we were fighting for. For me, such principles had tighter ties, any other common interest.

Yes, we both became activists, you and I, but not because of anger, as Rilwa thought. Anger would have been too easy to forget. Perhaps we were one of the few of us who was angry—angry against a crumbling system and a self-serving government, rage against the inequality and injustice inherent in the perceived social structure. It is a rage fueled by compassion for our fellowmen who deserve better as well as our desire to make things right.

That kind of rage doesn't go away when you sleep. It eats at you and gnaws at you, until you realize that you have to do something about it.

This is the same rage which drove many among the youth to take up arms, then and now. To say that mere anger and ego motivate them is to belittle their sacrifices. It is to say that when the government is an insult. I think it takes a lot more than anger for a young man to leave the comforts of home and live a life of uncertainty and danger.

Many say we have been brainwashed. I wish we were, and I wish that everything we have was a lie. As a student journalist, I was fascinated by the stories of the past. I was moved and sometimes to the marches and rooms that never made it to the headlines. There were no "mainstream lies." Everything was very real, and I still never forget many of them.

I remember how my heart broke for the farmers of Hacienda Luisita, for the workers in Mendiola, for the unsolved cases of the disappeared. How I cried when I saw the faces of people raping in busy EDSA, or when the rice crisis broke in 2008.

Why are Filipinos poor? Why do millions of families survive on less than P50 a day? Why do plant and farm go up, but wage remains suppressed? These questions plague me. And now, I found an ideology which explained what others could not.

I think back to all those jokes about raising up arms. None of them actually came true other having spent four years in UP. I know what activists mean when they say, "Serve the People."

In my mind as a student journalist, I was game to many places and I still am. I still want to be there, to tell the human tales. The stuck, either! Sen. Bonget's Antis at a barn in the countryside, and the military is framed and hated by many.

I wonder if Usher has forgotten Karen Empeño and Jhen Sadongdong. I wonder if Usher has forgotten Karen Empeño and Jhen Sadongdong. I wonder if Usher has forgotten Karen Empeño and Jhen Sadongdong.

I wonder if she remembers the killings of innocent civilians by military men who have blamed communist rebels for those crimes. As a writer in the Philippine Collegian, I had a chance to interview many of the victims' families who fled their communities in the countryside because of "bombing," a strategy where government troops are deployed in an area supposedly to clear it of insurgents but actually terrorizes civilians and forces them to admit that they are rebels in order that they would be rescued from the "communist influence."

Isn't it ironic that the army, an agency meant to protect and defend the helpless, are in fact their oppressors. Isn't it ironic that people fear those who are paid to be their protectors?

But maybe not. After all, the members of the armed forces of the Philippines have sworn loyalty to the ruling regime, and there have been many in the history of the Philippines a government of the people.

But I digress. If Rilwa truly understood us, she would have realized that being an activist is more easy. It is easier to do things by, to reason than ideology by themselves if you have a cause to stand alone. It is easier to pretend that we know nothing and just go stuffing and watch the movies to forget hard realities.

But we trudge on, knowing that despite the difficulties, a better future lies ahead not only for us and for our families, but for the rest of the masses.

The path we have chosen is difficult. To consider this home is a reaffirmation of what binds us, Mads. In times of utter frustration, of demoralization, our principles remain. There is nothing wrong with going against the system. There is something wrong—in fact, everything is wrong—with the system, and that is why we go against it. Not as long as injustice remains, we shall rage against it with the anger of the people.

The millions will try to drown us with their guns, but they cannot silence the inflicting people. What did Cory Chapman say in her song? "Free people are gonna rise up and take what's theirs."

And so we will, Mads. As we will, even if it takes a revolution.

MS. HAZEL O. M. ADRIANO, 20, is a graduate of the University of the Philippines Diliman.

10 things that make PH ugly

HUMAN FACE

Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism has taken a step back in its promotional campaign in order to discover creative thinking, after its now hugs and disgusts bloggers received a ton of brickbats and even the President's disapproval. Indeed, how could you sell Philippine tourism with an unoriginal, holding hugs and a catchphrase that only Filipinos would understand? As in, "Amorsyal"?

But enough with the bashing. The low, mid-a monied hugs that have close similarity to Poland's, and the "Pilipinas, kay ganda" (Philippines, how beautiful) that seekers wanted could lead to parties since have both been dumped: a non-issue. Pandora's box is open, and the DOT chairman took the blame and did the ultimate act of resigning.

He didn't have to resign irrevocably, if you ask me. How many government functionaries who have thoughtlessly or deliberately caused pain and misfortune to this country have ever hinted at resigning?

Now there is a rash of ideas on how best to sell the Philippines to the world, through words and images. Many people still like the old "Wow Philippines" line. Some even say that fireworks popular during the month of Rafael Gordon as tourism secretary. His successor, Ace Durano, did not change it because it must have worked. If it's not broke, why change it?

But I think the DOT has to be closely quilted out on "world of wonders" which the country is. A sweeping "bay garde" is not totally correct because of this country's chain of man-made ugliness interwoven in nature that is evident as soon as one steps out of the airport. "Wonders" of wonders" is more inclusive and could mean anything since they don't necessarily fall under "beautiful"—yes, sea and sky, food, art, nature, things that

P-Noy's relationship with media prematurely souring?

LETTERS

THE LATEST survey shows that President Aquino's popularity rating has declined by nearly 14 percent (from 66 down to about 80) compared to the last survey. Still a record high compared to his predecessors'. But he is blaming the press for this development. It is sad to note that his rapport with media is prematurely souring. Media's standard role is to be the public's eyes and ears in exposing government's shortcomings (taken down to trumpeting its creditable performance which is supposed of it [the government] in the first place.

P-Noy's public assessment of late put emphasis on what is being done for the benefit of the poor and to level up the economy. Not much different from that of Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and her team's (the "best and the brightest") in the early days after the ouster of a perceived inferior female administration. Mr. Aquino's campaign battle cry of punishing the cronyisms of the previous regime is perceptively being glossed over. This is now in the hands of a disciplined "Truth Commission." Never mind cursing and dysfunctional administration.

We can only hope that P-Noy's record of goodwill with the public will not dry up and his re-matric fame fade 'with media will not think our before his five year is of focus term.

—E. P. BALDOZ JR.,
emildabaoz@yahoo.com

It takes Juan to Taiwan!

Enjoy low fares to Taipei and other destinations!

Sale Period: Nov. 23-25, 2010 or until seats last • Travel Period: Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2011

DOMESTIC SEAT SALE GO LITE FARE

₱499 Manila to Catarman / Cebu to Tacloban

₱599 Manila to Roxas or Tacloban

INTERNATIONAL SEAT SALE GO LITE FARE

₱999 Manila to Kota Kinabalu or Taipei

₱1,499 Manila to Ho Chi Minh

₱1,999 Manila to Jakarta

₱2,899 Manila to Incheon / Cebu to Busan or Incheon

DOMESTIC GO LITE FARE

₱499	Manila to Caron (Busuanga), Iloilo, San Jose (Mindoro), Naga or Virac / Cebu to Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Iloilo or Surigao
₱599	Manila to Bacolod, Calbayog, Cebu, Kalibo, Legazpi or Tuguegarao / Cebu to Dumaguete or Ozamiz / Davao to Cagayan de Oro
₱699	Manila to Laoag or Tagbilaran / Cebu to Bohol
₱799	Manila to Puerto Princesa
₱999	Manila to Boracay (Caticlan), Cauayan (Isabela) or Dumaguete / Cebu to Boracay (Caticlan), Butuan, Clark, Dipolog, Puerto Princesa, Siargao or Zamboanga
₱1,199	Cebu to General Santos, Legazpi or Pagadian (SOON!) / Davao to Iloilo or Zamboanga
₱1,499	Manila to Cagayan de Oro or Bohol
₱1,699	Manila to Zamboanga or Surigao (SOON!)
₱1,799	Manila to Butuan, Catarman, Dipolog, General Santos, Ozamiz or Pagadian (SOON!)

INTERNATIONAL GO LITE FARE

₱1,699	Manila to Singapore / Clark to Singapore
₱1,999	Manila to Guangzhou
₱2,299	Clark to Hong Kong or Macau
₱2,499	Manila to Hong Kong, or Macau / Cebu to Hong Kong
₱2,899	Manila to Brunei (SOON!)
₱2,999	Manila to Bangkok / Cebu to Singapore
₱3,499	Manila to Kuala Lumpur / Clark to Bangkok
₱3,999	Manila to Shanghai
₱4,999	Manila to Beijing (SOON!)

INTERNATIONAL LITE FARE

₱5,999 Manila to Osaka

Taxes & fees are one-way. Limited availability. Fares are inclusive of government fees and taxes. Fares are non-refundable. Flight changes must be made more than 24 hours before scheduled time of departure. Go Lite Fares are available upon booking for online booking without check-in baggage. Add ₱100 to fare upon booking if booking with check-in baggage. CEB-approved terms and conditions of carriage apply and are available online at http://www.cebupacificair.com/About_Us/Conditions_of_Carriage.aspx

Call (02) 70-20-888 in Manila, (032) 230-88-88 in Cebu or visit the travel agent near you.

CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM

Cebu Pacific accepts CCB, Visa and MasterCard for online payment facilities.

Metrobank BDO Banco de Oro Allied Bank UBC

A leader in tears

I JUST had to take a break from work to share some thoughts on the tragedy that happened in Zamboanga some weeks ago. Its occurrence sends in a small schoolteacher he killed several people, including a young teacher. As a first-time mother, I am affected by the incident.

A teacher herself, my friend had an exchange of words about it. It was sensitive and unfortunate. He were discussing over the thought that the victim who was inside her classroom could have been on or some of our classes friends.

MS Anita Fabellar, 27, was the breadwinner of her family. She just recently graduated so that school. She used to protect her students by shielding them from the killer. She didn't have to do this. She could have just run outside. But her love for her students was more important than her life. And she was rewarded to death.

What struck me to see was how the Department of Education addressed the issue. The heads of the department went to Zamboanga immediately to be with the family and provide assistance. Moreover, what Education Secretary Jesse Luistro related the families, to bring her soon.

It s large bureaucratic organization like DepEd, it is normal that the leaders would not be able to meet their members because of the wounds of their egos. Blaming that there are cases of problems to fix in the education system in the country, I can imagine the workload of the leaders of the department.

However, that act of immediately responding and being with the bereaved is laudable. Canceling appointments and schedules so that they could go to Zamboanga clearly showed that the leaders were serious in taking care of their people, treasures and valued teachers in this case. More than the media mileage they gained from this, it sent the message to all teachers that their leaders are seriously concerned with their welfare.

In addition, the team of the DepEd head brought him closer to his people. The spontaneous and sincere show of humility was special to remind the public, especially considering the Filipino culture. Filipinos relate more to leaders who show sympathy and emotion and who "suffer with" them.

Running a large organization is a tremendous job for anyone, especially when there is pressure to perform. It may often say the energy of a leader who is focused in meeting the goals of his mandate. But the leader who dwells in empathy for people into doing his mission and goals will be more genuine in moments of crisis s an inspiration for them.

—ROSE ENRIQUEZ,
lenan_enriquez@yahoo.com.ph

Robredo qualified but lacks P-Noy's trust

IT WAS a daily veiled attempt by Ramon Paredes in his Nov. 15 column titled "Straining in the wind" to push for the extension of Local Government Secretary Jesse Robredo in the Aquino Cabinet. Still, it was good that he finally admitted somehow that Robredo does not enjoy the confidence of President Aquino.

Cabinet secretaries are the alter egos of a president; thus, however one is qualified for a department post does not mean anything if he doesn't have the president's trust.

It is said that Paredes had to spin that story spiel that Local Government Undersecretary Rico Puno has something to do with Robredo's fall from grace. Nothing can change the fact that there was an average 10 years time lapse for the Quirino grandstand homage Edsa to Pinto Jaro because he serves as the presidential liaison with the Philippine National Police. Anybody buys Robredo's washing of hands because at the end of the day, he holds Puno's accountable for the PNP and its operations as secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government and as chair of the National Police Commission.

Robredo should decide on a graceful exit from the Cabinet because if he insist to really to serving the public, he would be liable on washing under an administration which puts a premium on cunning, something which he doesn't enjoy.

—NICOLE LEE,
nole.lee1@gmail.com

Erratum

The headline of the lead letter (Page 16) in yesterday's issue of the Inquirer should have read "Public reaction to Mayong blunder out of proportion" instead of "...act of proportion."

PRIME LOCATION . LOWEST PRICE . BEST QUALITY

P100K Down Payment move in!

Victoria de Manila

www.victoriadomanila.com.ph

First few days: Only 3 phones, no desks for deskmen

From page A1

making noise—hilarious stories that were not funny at that time, anyway.

One day, reporter Yen de Leon snapped at news editor Malou de Jesus for cutting up her story. "What will my readers say? That I write disjointed stories?" she cried.

"If you don't want your stories edited, go out and publish your own paper," bellowed editor in chief Letty Jimenez, who ordered de Leon to apologize on tenspot.

She apologized, in every sense of the word. It turned out she was screaming at the wrong person. It was not Malou's but Jimenez, the business editor, who had edited her copy.

Cockpit plus

A cockpit—that's what we, the first bunch of reporters, thought of the loudest newsroom at the corner of 18th and Railroad streets in Pasay, Manila.

In it the slogan "Balanced Story, Positive Views," we tried hard to keep our journalistic enmity balanced with the spareness of headlines, and to be Sodium-Sulphite-Benzoate-of-Soda and innocuous whenever (courtesy of Marcos' rule, according to our unimpeachable sources) Because it was organized in a way for exposure to Marcos' biggest mistake of calling for a snap election), the lawyers had only three beats: Malacañang, the 26 heavy-duty Olympia typewriters shared by close to 40 editors, reporters, cartoonists, desks, advertising men, clerks, assistant executives and rehearsers, crowding every square inch of floor space in the office housed in the Intramuros-owned building.

The location must have been the only newspaper that started out with more reporters than columns inches and news hours available. There were more desktops than desks, too.

There was emergency site during table for the reporters' use. There were also several units of hi-tech word processors (Bolivian naturally-owned but I think it sat with the old reliable Olympia), which soaked and loafed more than the technology-challenged reporters could waste his hand.

There was a round table where the raiders held their meetings. The radios were the political beat reporters. (The bosses were born because of the snap elections, remember.)

Politburo

"Politics is the business's throne," the late Art Borjal, chief of reporters for politics, explained to me by the radio of the round table's first meeting at the end of November 1985.

Art's "politburo" included Jose Mo. Sison, Monico Jocson, Marites Danguilan, JP Feliti and the late Boy de Guzman, who formed the flag of Cory's reporting. They were the newspaper's "elite."

On the sidelines stood literally, because all the chairs were occupied by the editors and rather-Undersecretary (who not but lucky for other reasons) Chay Florentino, petite Jessica Dimalanta, the schoolgirlish Mary Ellen Paul, Ric Sunico, Louie Lagares, entertainment's Al Mogado, sports' Ignacio Dee, with eager reporter J.D. Alibasa of Bulgarian Mo. & Mo. Sons of Edition], Filo dela Cruz, Benjie Arjon, Mita Fernandez, art's Ital ega, Pet Cleto, the late chief photographer Johnny Villoria, Bob Dango Jr. and Honeyman Jose Alvaro, among others.

Brass were shuffled even before the actual coverage began. And tension hit on all time high with news editor Sanchez's announcement of a "dry run."

For the record, the bosses never had a dry run. On that fateful afternoon, when all our enemies were on high gear, Hendon gave us a power failure. (It just so ever such device ria in the middle of a blackout, that's how we got a three-hour room loaded on four days.)

Collector's item

Dry run or not, there was a dream of well-written. One on assemblyman (we forget his name) went on for three days with two inches to think using.

The biggest flap was Dec. 8. It was a pair's on the night the maiden issue was put to bed.

Chief photographer Wilson strayed out of the west bound of Dec. 8. "Collector's item," he said, handing his first copy of the newspaper.

There was a flurry for autographs, front newsboys joined in the chop. The Inquirer was born.

Apart from being "hell, engineers," Jose Aganod, dropped by for a copy. And went on to check the air-conditioners.

On Dec. 14 we collected our first salary, which consisted of crumpled and smelly paper bills and coins stuffed in brown pay envelopes.

Heroes

The newspaper, we thought, had the most tensioned layout. It was down shelves, an unmade bed, it was said.

But we took pride in the evil sins hurried fed by pre-martial law journalists and political detainees before and after martial law. Reporters listened in awe as the two men recounted their days in the Camp Crame stockade in the company of no less than the martyred Ramon Jim. Bonifacio "Bitoy" Aquino Jr.

Editor-turned-lobbyist were joined by a host of columnists who were loved, hated and mocked but libel, but who also enjoyed the greatest compliment a columnist could wish for: They were read.

Anyone who pushed his way around... engravings, invocations colored, homicidal maniac, Chinese plaintiffs, Europol-Indonesia—was the target of Ramon Tulfo's "Cat Tango." (Tulfo joined the business in January 1986, and had his first column by December.)

While Tulfo's outright punches blazed with exuberance, Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc's "leanings" showed another, deadlier prose.

In the bizarre years when disaster was enthroned as Malacañang, it served a banner's worst by ordering an editorial of the Marcos regime. She was barred on twice as editor in chief of Panorama, the Manila Bulletin's Sunday magazine, with "hello there," her trade colleagues loved to say.

Magsanoc said the article that caused her reinstatement was written in less a deadline, and that she never intended it as criticism Cha Matsuoka but only to tell the real story.

"That article wrote itself" she said.

Other heavies

Also on the Inquirer's early stable of political columnists was Belinda Olivares-Cassman, who in the late Nineties' Ramon Mitra once told to drop the word "political" from her column title "Political Tidbits" because, he said, it had become "tidbits" of everything.

"That's tidbit-bulls," Cassman said of her column.

The stable also included Lourdes Portasco (Mules My Say), Dick Bancud (Positive Ilk) and Vicente Albano Pedrosa (Food for Thought).

There were columnists for every field over which a columnizing abuses. Libra Cagaoa and Aida Avella Mendoza tackled economic issues; Jocson G. Fernandez dished out a super summup column on food. Miss Ate Amador Fatih photographer Mon Yuan Hagan) focused in and out of Manila's swanky ee parties, while Jaime T. Licuanco explored the inner mind.

Nestor U. Torre wrote an entertainment column built down, in this day) as did Riley Carballo, Alba Lucena and Ricky Lo.

There there were sporting buddies Oscar Orbeta and Al Mendoza, and their insider stories on basketball, boxing and here (among others).

And how could we miss the late Dick Joaquin's "Small Boo"? The legendary National Artist for Literature joined the bosom after being "fired" from another broadsheet. ("I, Dick Joaquin, am fired!" he instructed to have roared on the day he got his walking papers.)

His admirers believed that his name should have been enshrined in the bosom logo, as in "Balanced News, Positive Views and Dick Joaquin."

Action inside and out

Of course, what lay outside the bosom's office bosoms was a world unto itself.

Night action was a constant for joggers plying the routes between Pier and Divisoria, Quiapo, San Andres Bukid, Binondo, Cubao, Marikina, Pasay and Projects 7, 8 and Urdaneta.

Inside it was a makeshift bazaar where, on nights when the paper had been put to bed, moonlighting editor Angel Gaerlan would be found with a boxful of pies.

Together dawn Railroad Street were child selling PX and barter goods, where no slow female sidewalk opened their first salary ons coupled "imported" jeans.

There were high moments: even on the sidewalk where Angel Gaerlan set up shop, the sharpshiters had eclipsed wire reports had been turned off by an editorial assistant who just couldn't resist it-a-day.

As ever your know them, their machinations are on 24/7. But the new editor-in-chief, Letty Jimenez, "is very environment," had unplugged them.

Another time, reporters JP Nieto stormed into the newsroom ratings in spar with a diehards who had interrupted their favorite television series with a sarcastic "Is this news?"

Then there were the "No Smoking" signs placed on all over the cramped office.

A "No Smoking" newsroom? Only in the bosoms, on its first few days.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

U.S. urges PM against snap election ploy

Snap is GO!

(DEC. 20, 1985, front page of the Inquirer, 11 days after the launch)

'Tis the season to be jolly!

THE STAR AUCTION 2010

NORTH LUZON | NOVEMBER 27, 2010

10% Downpayment

Bulacan and Pampanga

Venue: CENTENNIAL HALL, MALOLOS CLUB VERTICAL RESORT, MALOLOS CITY

Registration starts at 8:00 am • Auction Proper starts at 10:00 am

Rest of North Luzon

Venue: PLAZA LETICIA, GAMMATHAM, NUEVA ECIJA

Registration starts at 9:00 am • Auction Proper starts at 10:00 am

CONTACT NUMBERS:

EASTERN SUPPORTS CEBU ECONOMIC, BUSINESS AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS

For over 130 years, EASTERN COMMUNICATIONS have serviced Corporate and Institutional sectors in the Philippines. And for nearly 100 years, Eastern has been supporting Cebu's Economic, Business and Social Programs.

CEBU'S ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS GROWTH

Cebu has experienced quantum growth in its economy for the past decades. To date, it boasts of being the IT hub of Visayas and Mindanao. It is also regarded as the leading Next Wave Cities in the global BPO site placement assessment.

The growth in its BPO and IT-based industries has also fueled a property and tourist boom since these attract both foreign investments well as foreign residency.

The growth in Cebu has also been fueled by the SME sector which earn dollars through its furniture, accessories, fashion, homeware and handicraft SME businesses. As big as it may seem, the SME sector still has a huge potential for growth.

EASTERN LAUNCHES SME-APPROPRIATE SERVICES FOR SMARTCEBU, THE EUROPEAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND SME ASSOCIATIONS OF CEBU

The insights from Eastern's research indicate that the SME sector not only requires Connectivity but also Business and Operations Management Tools. In addition, research also indicated that SMEs need help in improving their capability to access funds for their expansion.

In view of this, Eastern, along with its partners ADFIAP (Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific) and EStorm Technologies Pte. Ltd., conducted a business forum with SMARTCebu, the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines and the bigger SME Associations including: CGTH - Cebu Gifts, Toys and Housewares; FAME - Fashion Accessories Manufacturers and Exporters and CFIF - Cebu Furniture Industries Foundation.

ACCESS TO FUNDING FOR GROWTH

ADFIAP presented their Fund Access modules that help SMEs work through the banking system to access financial assistance.

ADFIAP CONSULTING

SUPERIOR CONNECTIVITY

Reliable and scalable voice and Internet connectivity: Gateway Direct, DSL and IDS

EASTERN DSL

EASTERN IDS

EASTERN GATEWAY DIRECT

SME-APPROPRIATE AND GREEN BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Eastern and EStorm meanwhile presented their SuccesSME and dataHUB SME Business Solutions along with their connectivity and partnered services.

SuccesSME

SuccesSME is a telco-neutral, SME-appropriate CRM (Customer Relationship Management) tool that requires NO SERVER, NO EXPENSIVE SOFTWARE to automate their Marketing Campaigns, Sales Force, Inventory, Billing, Business Reporting, Project Management and Purchasing operations. It is also the most affordable CRM tool in the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.

dataHUB

DataHUB meanwhile is the first TIER 2 and GREEN DATA CENTER in the Philippines that will enable SMEs to be more cost-effective and eco-friendly in their data management and disaster recovery requirements.

EASTERN SUPPORTS CEBU'S SOCIAL PROGRAMS

While in Cebu, Eastern Communications sponsored and participated in STAR Touring and Riding Association's FEED THE CHILDREN program as part of Eastern's CSR effort.

Bike enthusiasts from the Philippines, USA, Britain, New Zealand, Australia, Spain, Japan, South Korea, Germany, Canada and Norway attended and pledged their support for the social programs of the organization.

This was followed by feeding the children lunch and entertaining them with various motorcycle stunts. It ended in the afternoon by giving the children supplies for school their needs.

STAR Touring and Riding Cebu Chapter adopted the Feed The Children US Program as their national charity together with Eastern Communications.

At right, Eastern awarded the Best Vintage Bike to commemorate its more than 130 years of service in the Philippines and in Cebu.

CONTACT US

HEAD OFFICE:

Eastern Telecommunications Philippines, Inc.
Telecom Plaza, 316 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue,
Salcedo Village, Makati City, Philippines 1200

Product Inquiry: +63.2.3008008
Customer Service: +63.2.3001008
Facsimile: +63.2.3001111
Email: inquiries@etpi.com.ph

CEBU OFFICE:

Eastern Telecommunications Philippines, Inc.
2/F i2 Building, Asiatown IT Park
Lahug, Cebu City 6000

Phone Number: +63.32.4122337
Customer Service: +63.2.3001008
Email: carpoolsales-cebu@etpi.com.ph

But for 2, all jailed Ampatuans elected officials

From page A1

Of the 14 provincial board members, three are nominated dependents: Sheriff (the youngest brother of clan patriarch Andal Ampatuan Jr.), Hadja Tawan and Hajid Islam. The rest of the slots are divided among at least five other politically allied with the Ampatuans or with its architect, the Maguindanao.

Other posts

Currently, a number of town mayors are Ampatuans: Benzar, defeated vice governor of Maguindanao), Sinab (Datu Sinab IV incumbent), Saluo (Rajah Buayan), Bongbong, Eddy's wife (Sara Duffy), Sheriff Ahmad (Datu Ishmael Zaloza, Anwar's wife (Sharif Aguak), Sinsuat (Sheriff Sinsuat) and Rashid, Andal Jr.'s wife (Datu Blanca).

Four vice mayors are Ampatuans: Anwar (Sharif Aguak), Salvador (Pumpi), Hadji Ahmad, mother of Sinab Jr. (Mangudadatu) and Limon, one of the accused in the Maguindanao massacre (Datu Saffie).

Dozens of councilors from the notorious 26 Maguindanao clans, five out of 10 councilors are Ampatuans.

But their functions have been cut and their salaries suspended on the ruling of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, to which they appeal. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo transferred supervision of the ARMM Provincial Government from Dept. Order No. 373 issued on Nov. 27, 2009.

Arroyo had also placed Maguindanao, Sultan Kudarat and Cotabato City under a state of emergency through Proclamation No. 1946, and had have declared martial law with EO 1958.

She rescinded PP 1959 a day before a joint session of Congress could vote to concur on it on Dec. 18, 2009.

Influence in 11 municipalities

By the reckoning of officials and residents interviewed by the Inquirer, the Ampatuans still substantially maintain influence over at least 11 of Maguindanao's 36 municipalities.

Former Talayan Mayor Mohammad Mehmeng attributed this to what he called "the factor of tradition" and to the belief that not all of them were involved in or were in favor of the massacre of 58 media workers and other civilians, including one whose remains have yet to be found.

• To prevent the conflict from taking its toll on families allied with either camp.

• To let justice take its course for those found involved in the massacre.

• Not to blame the Dec. 19 killing of Sultan Shariff in Datu Ampatuan, also known as Datu Cliff, on the political rivalry between the two clans.

Mehmeng said leading clans could live together lately peacefully with fear of God.

Maguindanao Rep. Simeon Datumanong said the only way to achieve real justice was through the right judicial, administrative and security continuum to peace and fear of God; and compassion for life.

"We pray that there will be no more killings after this, as we go along with our old communities—the common quest for truth, peace and justice in our land," he said.

Sultan Kudarat Mayor Sadiq Tocao Mastura said the solution to family feuds was reserve advocacy in the rendering of the Qur'an.

Lost opportunities

At 18, Mastapha Ampatuan, a nephew of Ampatuan Jr., enrolled in a Catholic school in Metro Manila.

He said that he wanted to be a lawyer, and that he chose to study in the north to be close to his maternal kin, the Agpawelis of Ilocandia.

His elder sister, Spell, is a certified public accountant. She said that two out of three were involved in or were in favor of the massacre of 58 media workers and other civilians, including one whose remains have yet to be found.

Emerging from a closed door meeting on Oct. 27, members of the Ampatuan and Mangudadatu clans and their political allies declared a common position on the feud:

• To prevent the conflict from taking its toll on families allied with either camp.

• To let justice take its course for those found involved in the massacre.

• Not to blame the Dec. 19 killing of Sultan Shariff in Datu Ampatuan, also known as Datu Cliff, on the political rivalry between the two clans.

Mehmeng said leading clans could live together lately peacefully with fear of God.

Maguindanao Rep. Simeon Datumanong said the only way to achieve real justice was through the right judicial, administrative and security continuum to peace and fear of God; and compassion for life.

"We pray that there will be no more killings after this, as we go along with our old communities—the common quest for truth, peace and justice in our land," he said.

Sultan Kudarat Mayor Sadiq Tocao Mastura said the solution to family feuds was reserve advocacy in the rendering of the Qur'an.

Lost opportunities

At 18, Mastapha Ampatuan, a nephew of Ampatuan Jr., enrolled in a Catholic school in Metro Manila.

He said that he wanted to be a lawyer, and that he chose to study in the north to be close to his maternal kin, the Agpawelis of Ilocandia.

His elder sister, Spell, is a certified public accountant. She said that two out of three were involved in or were in favor of the massacre of 58 media workers and other civilians, including one whose remains have yet to be found.

That job opportunity did not push through, ostensibly because of her surname.

Mastapha said he used to have a close friend, a schoolmate, among the Mangudadatu children. But that friendship was lost in the aftermath of the country's worst incidence of political violence.

Anwar Ampatuan, an attorney, said he failed a visa interview at the US Embassy in Manila in June.

His colleagues suspect that his grandmother's blood relationship with Ampatuans in might have been blamed in some background investigation.

Rohaima has a daughter studying in a Catholic university, who is also trying to cope with what has become a raving bias against the Ampatuans and Maguindanao.

Not all Ampatuans bad

Sultan Kudarat, whose municipal name is Ampatuan, said his family was also suffering from the consequences of the massacre.

Out of chivalrous (propriety) she said, she cleared herself of accountabilities with her former employer, the office of the deposed ARMM Governor Andal Ampatuan.

A mother of three, Kariang said she had been desperately hoping to find another job for the sake of her youngest daughter, who had to be taken regularly to Manila for treatment of an eye problem.

Maguindanao Gov. Esmael "Toto" Mangudadatu earlier said Cotabato City officials are among those killed, himself and "not all Ampatuans are bad."

New leadership

On the day Magpindanao held its election on May 14, Datu Ala couldn't stop crying.

The 18-year-old woman was sobbing her condition of a new leadership at the capitol in Shariff Aguak and the imminent dismissal of Ampatuan Jr. and his kin's.

Tejanis daughter, 18-year-old Sahid, also wept, saying justice would soon be served for her father, Abdullah Ala, who had vanished and was said to have been a victim of the alleged clans and murders attributed to the Ampatuans.

For many years, the Alas have kept their pain to themselves, fearing for their lives.

Now, Tejani said, "Allah took pity on us. Finally."

Mother and daughter waited up for Mangudadatu's proclamation as governor on poll night.

As he had promised in his campaign stations, Mangudadatu swore justice for the families of the murdered, including the victims of the massacre in Ampatuan town on Nov. 23, 2009.

The challenge begins on June 30, the day he was sworn into office.

True from a seed

The Alas observed that much had changed in the last few months. Tejani saw a "transition period" and her daughter noted that reconciliation was the mantra these days.

But how to break the image of a province so deeply scarred by its history of violence?

The answer comes easy for the optimistic Mangudadatus, who make a monumental to governance.

"I have challenges I hand on, taking one step at time, because everything started small, just like a tree that was from a mere seed," he said.

The Ampatuans left less than P1,000,000 in the provincial coffers, Mangudadatus said, but by a breaking on tourism to preserve income and spend it for public services.

"I inherited practically zero when I took over, so what can you do with that?" said the new governor, who had served three terms as mayor of Buluan town.

Mangudadatu billed the provincial incidence of 62 percent in Maguindanao, as recorded by the National Statistics Coordinating Board.

He said "80 percent of the population endures the hardship of life in the province."

He acknowledged that provincial development would not happen overnight. "Within my time limit as governor," he said, exhibiting confidence in moderation, "the programs (s)he will surely lessen the (poverty) figure and increase the income of families."

Reform agenda

Mangudadatus spelled out his agenda—reminders of peace and order, transparent governance, poverty reduction, infrastructure development, parallel support to Muslim education, urged access to quality services, environmental management programs and enhanced revenue generation.

This year, Maguindanao will receive P1 billion in internal revenue allotment (IRA), or roughly P83 million a month, to cater to over a million people awaiting change.

"Since I took office ... life has become better for Maguindanaons. The result is enormous," the widower said, adding:

"So I travel deeper to various towns and see the people's condition, I get smiles and happy responses. I believe that the people will love to feel the impact of change soon."

Reconciliation

Reconciliation topic his plans for good governance. It was not a step that his critics and enemies wanted him to take, even if it would serve their interests.

"But this is the start to secure ideal leadership in a province with deep-rooted problems," he said.

The effort is geared toward harmonizing Mangudadatu's programs in the so-called Ampatuan country.

He had extended his hand to the Ampatuans, but was dismayed to find that they were not forthcoming.

"They are always in Manila for their family members who are the prime suspects in the murder cases filed in court," he said.

Soon, Mangudadatu will impose stricter penalties to obstruction suspects and other town officials.

Hours before the interview with the Inquirer, a younger brother and two nephews of Ampatuan Jr. paid the governor a visit.

Mangudadatu said the perused that he and other members of the clan could work together.

"These are the good Ampatuans," he said.

CEBU

RESIDENTIAL

8 Iris
Visayan Estates
Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu
LA 365 sqm
Php 1,095,000
LA 413 sqm
Php 1,239,000
LA 423 sqm
Php 1,269,000
LA 440 sqm
Php 1,320,000
LA 465 sqm
Php 1,395,000
LA 477 sqm
Php 1,431,000

SB-517
Along Paseo Dos Single
Ma. Luisa Estate Park Subd.
Banilad, Cebu City
LA 934 sqm
Php 4,000,000

COMMERCIAL

SU-377
Unit 401 IAU Tower D,
Jakosalem St., Brgy. Cogon,
Cebu City
FA 59.80 sqm
Php 1,475,000

SU-376
Unit 204 IAU Tower, D,
Jakosalem St., Brgy.
Cogon, Cebu City
FA 84.48 sqm
Php 2,112,000

SU-375
Unit G-2, IAU Tower,
Jakosalem St., Brgy. Cogon,
Cebu City
FA 120.81 sqm
Php 3,624,300

ILOILO

RESIDENTIAL

SU-120
Baya-Tubosan Sulbod Road,
Brgy. Baya, Zarraga, Iloilo
LA 6,000 sqm
Php 2,000,000

SU-224
Arevalo-Oton Prov. Rd.
Brgy. Alegria, Oton, Iloilo City
LA 2,412 sqm FA 459 sqm
Php 4,000,000

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

RESIDENTIAL

SUN-022
L37 B1, Southeast Side of
Rosario St., Carnetone Subd.,
Brgy. 19-A, Victorias City,
Negros Occidental
LA 350 sqm FA 100 sqm
Php 350,000

SU-372A
Unit 6 Beverly Homes, Ela.
Class, Bacolod City
FA 110 sqm
Php 880,000

SB-526
Blk. 9 Lot 10 Holliera St.,
Zone 3 Ardilla Subd.
Silay City
LA 240 sqm FA 96.30 sqm
Php 822,150

SB-525
No. 1 Juan Abad Santos St.
Cabug Subd. Silay City,
Negros Occidental
LA 750 sqm
Php 950,000

SB-527
Lot 11 Block 7 Gardenia Subd.
Brgy. Zone 2,
Talisay City
LA 405 sqm
Php 618,840

SU-313
Hamtiranan Rd., Brgy.
Mansilingan, Bacolod City
LA 1,534 sqm
Php 1,373,800

SU-099
Brgy. Singcang-Airport,
Bacolod City
LA 400 sqm FA 158 sqm
Php 1,400,000

SB-516
Lot 3-A&B Block 12 Margarita
St. Capitolville Subd., Bacolod
City
LA 300 sqm
FA 150.60 sqm
Php 2,180,000

SU-378
La Herencia Negrense Subd.,
Mandalagan
Bacolod City
LA 1,868 sqm
Php 2,940,000

SU-222
Gatuslao St., Capitol Subd.,
Bacolod City
LA 2,710 sqm FA 820 sqm
Php 6,504,000

COMMERCIAL

SB-515
Along Araneta St.,
Singcang
Bacolod City
LA 940 sqm
Php 6,580,000

INDUSTRIAL

SU-122
Lot 1031-N-12 Pahanocoy
Mansilingan,
Bacolod City
LA 29,405 sqm
Php 2,940,500

AGRICULTURAL

SB-528
Lot 1144 Brgy. Lopez Jaena,
Sagay City
LA 71,984 sqm
Php 2,500,000

CONTACT NUMBERS: CEBU [illegible] | ILOILO [illegible] | BACOLOD [illegible] | HEAD OFFICE [illegible]

Assistant Editor: Tony Ilee-gioka

Across the NATION

Bulusan unrest forces Sorsogon truce

LEGAZPI CITY—The continuing unrest of Mt. Bulusan prompted communist rebels and government soldiers to halt hostilities to allow relief work to proceed uninterrupted in areas hit by the volcano's ash explosions.

The truce would be in effect until the volcano simmers down.

The Eastern Peoples Army and the Philippine Army declared the truce in six towns surrounding Bulusan in Sorsogon, according to Colonel Guerrero, spokesperson of the 903rd Cot, to Mindanao Command, in an e-mail message.

The truce, said the 903rd spokesperson, would be in effect to a 10-kilometer radius around Bulusan in villages in the towns of Irosin, Juban, Gubat, Barcelona, Casiguran and Bulusan.

Army welcomed

The Army's 903 Infantry Brigade welcomed the declaration, Col. Sudie Delfin, head of Task Force Eagle, said the Army "accepts the temporary peace initiative."

"Our men, for a while, would not worry about military attacks by NPA rebels," he said.

"We can but track the movement of villagers and the delivery of relief items in vast evacuation camps," he added.

Ash direction

Bulusan exploded more at 1:22 p.m. on Wednesday, sending an ash column about 1,000 meters high into the air.

Ash settled southwest to Sorsogon, according to Ely Solis, of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs).

He said the volcano spit out ash for about 5 minutes, the wind carrying ash to Irosin Sorsogon.

Bulusan had been quiet on Tuesday. Phivolcs reported no volcanic quakes or activity until yesterday morning.

Solis said the ash explosion yesterday was a sign of the "continuing unstable condition" of Bulusan.

Phivolcs maintained the alert level at 1.

A warning was reiterated for people to stay away from a 4-kilometer permanent danger zone around Bulusan.

Evacuees in the towns of Juban and Irosin continued to stay in evacuation shelters as night has been allowed by authorities to return home during the day.

Evacuees

As of Wednesday, municipal disaster officials reported 95 families in Irosin evacuation sites and 114 families in Juban shelters.

Government soldiers and a party-list group on Wednesday provided relief and medical supplies, including face masks, in Juban town for 225 families or 600 persons.

Of the number, 111 families were from Barangay Parang-parang, one of the villages heavily hit by ash fall on Sunday, said Lupeth Rivelan, action officer of the Irosin Disaster risk reduction and management council.

Evacuees loaded their boats on runs of only that had covered houses and streets in several villages.

Aside from food, residents have requested for more face masks to protect them from the ash fall.

Health workers have reported an increase in cases of respiratory ailments among villagers. *With reports from Joey Gonis, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

Councilor shot, killed near office in Biñan City

BIÑAN CITY—A city councilor was killed while his driver was wounded in an ambush by still unidentified men just a few minutes from the city government office on Monday afternoon.

Sgpo. Joel Pereira, city police chief, said Councilor Frederico "Dodong" Geron had just left his office around an hour. Governor government car when the vehicle was waylaid and shot at close range in Ambulong Subdivision, Barangay Zapote past 5 p.m.

Geron, who suffered at least two gunshot wounds, was rushed to the University of Perpetual Help System Dalta Hospital but died while undergoing treatment two hours later.

Mr. Alvera, Lakdo Calpito, was wounded but is already out of danger.

The two gunmen escaped on board a motorcycle.

"We have already established leads but we cannot disclose them right now in investigation continues," Pereira said.

Geron was on his second term as a city councilor and chaired both the committee and the public work in council love.

According to sources in the city council, who requested anonymity in the face of reprisal, Geron had recently authored a resolution that gave businessmen from Barangay Zapote priority in business locations at the Sapotan Terminal, an industrial zone here.

"They had the association of businessmen from Biñan and they passed some sort of registration or membership," the source said.

He said a business competitor, who was not part of the business league, could be behind the councilor's murder. *Marvince Cleaso, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

FLYING foxes dwell in trees, rest caves, and depend on the forest for their survival. LEO SOLOMON/INQUIRER SORSOGON

Rare bats thrive in Sorsogon mountain

SORSOGON CITY—Four years after the banning of bat hunting and the establishment of a bat sanctuary in 2008 at the 127-hectare Bacon Gorchon-mil Protection Park (BGPP) in the boundary of Sorsogon City and Monte-verde in Albay, the number of bats species active in the place increased their population eight-fold.

The two rare species of fruit bats—the golden-crowned flying fox and the flying fox—live in a colony inside the bat sanctuary whose population dramatically increased from 1,000 to 2,000 to 8,000 at present, according to sanctuary manager Gonzalo Mancebuena.

A 2008 study by biologist Philip Arabis, a member of the Wildlife Conservation Society and Conservation International, showed that deforestation caused the dwindling of traditional bats to a colony from about 100,000 in the 1980s to about 2,500 to 2,000 today.

These bat species are important in the regeneration of denuded areas, according to Arabis's study titled "The Bats of Bacon-Bulusan Geothermal Field."

The study credited that flying foxes, unique within a single habitat, can cover 80 percent, according to sanctuary manager Gonzalo Mancebuena.

The seeds in the fruit they eat are dispersed through their droppings while in flight, the study said.

What germinated, the dispersed seeds help maintain ecological stability, the study added.

A globally threatened species, the golden-crowned flying fox is found only in the Philippines and are dispersed throughout the country, except for Palawan and Batanes.

The large flying fox, which is more numerous in the country, has a wingspan reaching 1.7 meters and weighing a little more than a kilo.

The bat sanctuary, an ecotourism attraction of BGC's geothermal complex, is situated by a gully. It functions in climate change and control with mixed growth forest.

At the viewing deck of the sanctuary, these flying foxes could be viewed at the noon-to-afternoon of about 20 meters.

Leo Biago, chief of the Environment Management Division, said the increase in the number of flying foxes will help enhance the previously logged over areas of the 25,000-ha geothermal energy reservation area. *Jaime Bellicanta Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon*

P1B in pay for teachers delayed since June

FLORIDABLANCA, Pampanga —Gilda Enriquez, 28, has not been receiving her P5,000-monthly honorarium as a preschool teacher since classes opened in June.

Enriquez, an Aeta teacher, is not alone in her woes. At least 27,316 preschool teachers of the Department of Education (DepEd) all over the country are in the same plight.

"Eventually all have not received their salaries. The Department of Budget and Management already transferred funds to the DepEd central office and would be released to schools for payment," Bienvenida Ordoñez Bandoy, DepEd media relations officer, said in a text message.

Budget Secretary Florencio Abad said the delay happened because DepEd "only submitted the request on Nov. 4 but with incomplete documents."

"But we're done with reworking it," Abad told the Inquirer.

He said the amount needed is more than P1 billion.

Abad said the amount due to preschool teachers was honorarium, not salary.

Enriquez said during the dry season, they do seasonal work, or from her parents for fare and food while she taught children below seven years old at the Mabalacat Elementary School in the uplands of this town.

The local government gave her P1,200 in allowance for teaching adult Aetas in August and September under the DepEd's Alternative Learning System.

ACT Teachers Rep. Antonio Tinio assailed the Aquino administration for a supposed plan to hire preschool teachers on contractual basis in violation of RA 10,410.

The contractual system approved long-term tenure for teachers. Contracts usually last from three to six months.

A document on the budgetary requirement of public preschool education showed the DepEd needed P1.266 billion for "contracted professional services of teachers" in 37,803 public elementary schools. Roselle Ordoñez, *Inquirer Central Luzon*

DILG: Letting overstaying execs hold office dangerous

SAN PEDRO, Laguna—The Department of Interior and Local Government warned of a dangerous precedent in allowing village officials who have exceeded their terms to continue holding office as a result of a Commission on Elections decision.

Local Government Secretary Jesse Robredo said he hoped the Comelec would correct the anomaly that is one of its resolutions created.

Manila Gutierrez, in Resolution No. 9588, ruled that even village officials who won in the recent elections but are past their third terms would be allowed to take their oaths and hold office on Nov. 30.

The Constitution bars elected officials from holding office for more than three consecutive terms.

Robredo said Resolution No. 9588 was a "knee jerk" response by Comelec to the clamor to fill village positions.

Comelec officials had been opposed to saying even officials who are on their fourth or fifth terms would be allowed to take their oaths and assume office on Nov. 30 until the legality of their stay in office would be decided in cases that may be filed by their opponents.

Robredo said this was a key way of enforcing laws on village elections. He said in most election cases, decisions are not out too late, or when the official has already finished the contested term.

He said the Comelec still has time to validate a list of village officials who had exceeded term limits. *Marvince Cleaso, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

Gov't allows ancestral land sale

BAGUIO CITY—The government has allowed ancestral lands to be converted into subdivisions and condominiums within ten years of issuance of indigenous communities.

The decision ended a year of debate, but not the controversy, among local government and housing officials and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP).

Teresita Calayugan, Cordillera director of the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB), said the agency has granted a license to sell to the heirs of Mauricio, an Dulay clan due to, cluded the Cotabato-based developer Alexander Realty and Development Corporation.

The license was issued on Nov. 5, five months after the Baguio City council issued a resolution giving the family clearance to proceed with plans to use their ancestral land into a townhouse subdivision to Barangay Irisan.

The 1997 Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (Ipra or Republic Act No. 8371) says community property "belongs to all generations and therefore cannot be sold, disposed of or destroyed."

The law allows indigenous peoples to own ancestral property and "the right to transfer land or property rights to or among members of the same indigenous cultural community or indigenous people, subject to customary laws and the traditions of the community concerned."

Activists supporting indigenous Filipino rights have interpreted this to mean that ancestral lands may not be sold, except to fellow tribe members or relatives. *Norvert Cabrera, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

A PARCEL of land in Barangay Irisan in Baguio City belonging to an Ibaloi clan is fencing into a subdivision.

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

Julie Jan Barahayel
Bureau Chief Florentino B. Subingsubing

Makiling joins save-dolphin crusade

NOT ONLY does the dolphin mural promote wildlife conservation but it also encourages volunteerism among students and even street children passing by a school wall in Los Baños, Laguna.

By Marivic Cinco
Los Baños, Laguna

FOR EFRAIM BOMAS, the mystic bond of Maria Makiling, the mythical mountain keeper, delivered an artistic stroke on the advocacy mural of 116 dolphins painted on a stretch of wall outside a public high school in Los Baños town in Laguna.

"It is dramatic. It is as if the dolphins are weeping," he said after a sudden downpour and heated weather washed down the work in progress on an outline of Mindal tree ornaments in late October.

Some 20 student volunteers from the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) ended the painting and finished the 88 x 18-foot mural two weeks after under bright, clear skies.

Bomas, an instructor at the UPLB College of Human Ecology, invited Guerrero No7 Saño, 35, a marine mammal expedition photographer for the World Wide Fund for Nature, to do the mural of bottlenose dolphins on the bare concrete fence of Los Baños National High School at Pilot Street, Triad Subdivision, Barangay Batong Malake.

Inspired by film

Saño is aspiring to paint 23,000 dolphins in different locations all over the country in a personal crusade to raise public awareness on dolphin slaughter. The number represented those killed yearly in Taiji, Wakayama, Japan, according to the US documentary film "The Cove."

"[Dolphins] are a significant part of the ocean. They are like humans—the keystone species in the food chain. If we don't preserve and value them, this can lead to disastrous," Saño said.

"I always say this: Dolphins are just the tip of the iceberg. It's easier to campaign since dolphins have this 'adorable image,' but I doubt if it'll still be as appealing if they are sharks instead," he said.

While the issue of dolphin killing has yet to become popular in the Philippines, the artist has raised the alarm over reports that fishermen in some areas in Bohol would kill dolphins that were accidentally caught in their nets.

Saño also opposes dolphin shows in hotels and other theme parks, and the traveling dolphin shows in Manila this Christmas season as the country becomes a market for the importation and transportation of the marine mammals.

The dolphin murals, he said, aimed to send a message as simple as preventing people from dumping waste in the seawater. "Dolphins are just symbols. The message is to love your ocean," he said.

Volunteerism

Saño said he made the first few murals with cans of paint he collected from convenience sites. With self-security fast vanishing under an impact, as more and more people would invite him to different provinces to paint dolphins.

He has so far painted 130 walls from as far as the Babuyan Islands in the north down to the Tawi-Tawi Island in the south. After the Los Baños mural, the artist is "low" 2,000 short of his target.

Bomas said the student volunteers were inspired to finish the work and decided to hold film showings of "The Cove." The proceeds will be used to fund another mural project in Laguna.

So far, more than 3,000 people have signed up to help do the mural in their areas.

Saño has been invited to paint a 100 x 8-foot dolphin mural on the bleachers of a basketball court in San Jose town in Batangas. He welcomed the participation of evildoers even street children to paint with him.

At present, he is working on a mural in Boracay Island, where he plans to finish on by year-end his 222,998th dolphin.

The last dolphin will be painted by 10 Oldtown during the university's annual Laurean Parade in December.

An expressway of yellow flower blooms

LET COUNTLESS yellow flowers bloom along the South Luzon Expressway (SLEx). In five years, trees planted along the periphery of the 59-kilometer main thoroughfare to southern Luzon are expected to blossom, creating yellow strips of border on both sides.

A total of 1,800 saplings were planted on Saturday along the southbound lane from Buendia/Ayala to Southwoods in Biñan City, and on both sides of the 5-km link between the SLEx and Star Tollway in Calamba City as part of efforts to rehabilitate the expressway.

The event represented the first phase of the "SLEx Tree Planting" project of the expressway concessionaire, South Luzon Tollway Corp. (SLTC), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon) and the Rotary Club of Makati Blackwell (RCMB).

The Career Executive Service Board, which celebrated its anniversary, joined the activity.

Planted were the flowering tree varieties of Golden Shower (Cassia fistula), Palawan Cherry (Prunus prunicia), Bulalakaw (Cleyera/ternstroemia) and Caballero (Caesalpinia pulcherrima).

They are classified as medium-sized trees, which means they grow only by 6 to 18 feet, or half the height of tree varieties (mahogany) found along roadsides, such as acacia, mahogany, narra and gmelina.

"It would be safer for the motorists. That way, if in case branches fall off, they would not hamper the traffic," Rilo Tacorda, environment regional director, said by phone on Monday.

The tree varieties can also absorb more carbon monoxide, which could ease air pollution from vehicles, Tacorda said. From 150,000 to 160,000 vehicles pass through the SLEx daily.

Political color

"More than their aesthetic value, the chosen species are ideal roadside trees since, when fully grown, they also act as effective wind breakers, lessening the wind drag on the vehicles," Allan Pihlo, SLTC safety and environment manager, said in a statement sent to the InQUIRER.

Asked if the yellow flowering trees may increase something political, Tacorda said "we would look at it that way. (After all, the color) yellow is associated with the Aino family," he said.

Dr. Rolando Alcala, former environmental undersecretary and now RCMB president, also said in the statement that the yellow blooms "will continue to celebrate the Noynoy Aquino presidency" which used yellow as its campaign color in the May polls.

SLTC is responsible for the upkeep of the trees. It will install tree guards, weed the grass, and water and protect the plants from grass fires during dry season.

Tacorda said more tree saplings would be grown to complete the entire SLEx network.

By Marivic Cinco

SOME 1,800 flowering tree saplings are planted along a stretch of the South Luzon Expressway in Calamba City to be joined to by Rilo Tacorda (right), environmental director.

Re-purposing tire flaps for flood-prone villages in Laguna

A RESIDENT of a fishing village in Sta. Cruz town in Laguna receives a tire cover for flap, which will also serve as a floater during typhoons and floods.

By Marivic Cinco
Sta. Cruz, Laguna

THEY JUST won't let go of discards, particularly tractor tire flaps, in the coastal village of San Pablo Norte in Sta. Cruz, Laguna.

Ordinarily, residents place the used clay ramp on the seawall to make the flaps with plywood or sturdy cardboard as base, similar to sandboats. It serves dual purpose, however, it served when floods come as they are used as life buoys or "salbabida."

The people particularly recall the typhoons Ondoy, Tropical Storm "Ondoy" and Typhoon "Yolanda" struck last year. "Sinasuot (as rubber boots) namin, but they had to evacuate the families one by one and just secured for the others," Oscar Romero, 73, said in Filipino.

Romero said he was lucky that the family had a fishing boat to escape from the rising floodwaters, but those who did not own one had no choice but stay on their houses' rooftops and wait for help.

Senior Supt. Gilbert Cruz, provincial police director, said it took a while before everyone was rescued. "We do not want a repeat of what happened," he said.

It is also for this reason that the provincial police office is pumped up in collecting old, worn-out tires from junk shops and bus and truck companies under its program dubbed "Tanggal mo, Kalagyan ko (Your Junk, My Reward)."

The tire flaps are stitched up and tethered to serve as floaters.

Last week, the police distributed 250 flaps, one to each family in the flood-prone areas in Sta. Cruz, Pila and Victoria towns.

Rescue equipment

Months after the typhoons, Romero said the price of a used tire sold at junk shops had doubled to P200-P300, while other areas had run out of stock.

"Ako pose-sente dyes had gones everybody here," said Dante Medina, San Pablo Norte chair. Only 15 families in the barangay received the flaps.

Cruz said the tire innertubes were given directly to the families instead of crossing them through the municipal or village offices. "The residents themselves would have the chance of saving their families by tying the floaters right away during emergency evacuation," he said.

Each flap can accommodate up to 10 adults during floods.

Vhernee Tamanon, director of the Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council in Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon), endorsed the police initiative. "During widespread flooding, we anticipate the problem that resources in the villages and municipal (levels) could not extend to the residents all at the same time," he said.

Only 75 soldiers from the police and eight to 12 from the Philippine Coast Guard and the Philippine Army are available for the whole region, Tamanon said. The number may not be enough when catastrophe strikes in several areas, he said.

Tamanon said the council was looking for alternative and cheaper rescue equipment. One rubber boat can cost some P500,000 to a million.

NOVEMBER 25 (Thursday)

11 am – 9 pm	Art Festival at Maxims Tower Lobby
3 pm onwards	Light Festival around RWM Complex
4 pm – 9 pm	Mini Symphonic at Newport Park
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Pinoy Rock Concert at Concert Grounds

NOVEMBER 26 (Friday)

11 am – 9 pm	Art Festival at Maxims Tower Lobby
3 pm onwards	Light Festival around RWM Complex
4 pm – 9 pm	Mini Symphonic at Newport Park
6:30 pm – 9:45 pm	Gala Night at Maxims Ballroom*
8:00 pm – 11 pm	Ariel Pineda at Concert Grounds
9:30 pm – 10 pm	RADS Production Show at Newport Performing Arts Theater*
10 pm – 12 am	The Earth, Wind and Fire Experience featuring The Al Mckay Allstars at Concert Grounds*

NOVEMBER 27 (Saturday)

10 am – 4 pm	Investment Philippines Forum at Maxims Ballroom*
11 am – 9 pm	Art Festival at Maxims Tower Lobby
3 pm onwards	Light Festival around RWM Complex
4 pm – 8 pm	Grand Parade at/for RWM Complex
6 pm – 9:30 pm	RADS Production Show at Newport Performing Arts Theater*
8:00 pm – 11 pm	Gourmet Night with Chef Jacky Yu at Fusion Restaurant*
9 pm – 10 pm	Body Paint Fashion Show at Gaming Club*
9:30 pm – 11:30 pm	The Earth, Wind and Fire Experience featuring The Al Mckay Allstars at Concert Grounds

NOVEMBER 28 (Sunday)

5 am – 8 am	Grand Fiesta Run 2010 with Rad Races at Concert Grounds
11 am – 12 nn	High Mass at Newport Plaza
2 pm – 4:30 pm	RADS Matinee at Newport Performing Arts Theater*
5 pm – 6 pm	High Mass at Newport Plaza
8 pm – 10 pm	Jed Madela Concert at Newport Performing Arts Theater

*By invitation only

Contact us for more information:

Gilbert Tumin / Vivien Hontan
+63 (2) 856-4333
Email: customerservice@rwmanila.com

Ticketworld CALL: 891-9999

Endorsed by

Aplus METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

SC orders raps vs Ivler dismissed

Suspect cleared of liability in 2004 case

By Marlon Ramos and Nancy C. Carvajal

ONE DOWN, two to go.

The mother of road rage suspect Jesus Ivler said (his son has won) reaction to the Supreme Court ruling granting the dismissal of the charges filed against him in connection with the death of Palace official Senior Prosecutor Jesus Ivler.

"We said he was in a state of disbelief and [that it was] one [case] down, two to go," Madonna Aguilar told the reporters in a phone interview yesterday.

On Nov. 17, the high court's Second Division cleared Ivler of any criminal liability in the death of Prosecutor Ivler, the presidential adviser on reorganization, was killed on Aug. 8, 2004, after the vehicle being driven by Ivler swerved into the opposite lane of the C5 flyover in Pasig City and crashed into Rosco's lanes. Trooper Hanalin Evangelista was injured.

Citing the constitutional provision on double jeopardy, the high tribunal granted Ivler's petition which sought the dismissal of the charges of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide and damage to property filed against him.

"The petitioner offended by the Constitution abolishing petitioner [Ivler] from prosecutions placing him in jeopardy to second punishment for the same offense have further proceeding of [the assailed case]," the court said.

Petitions by Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio, the ruling was released to media only yesterday. Concurring with Carpio's decision were Senior Associate Justice Conchita Carpio-Morales and Associate Justices Diosdado Peralta, Roberto Abad and Jose Mendoza.

Aside from the charges filed in connection with Rosco's death, his wife Evangeline sued Ivler separately for reckless imprudence resulting in slight physical injuries.

On Sept. 7, 2004, Ivler pleaded guilty to the charge filed by Evangeline. He was sorted out a penalty of public censure by Pasig Metropolitan Trial Court Branch 71 Judge Marvin Rowena San Pedro.

Ivler then moved for the dismissal of the charges related to Rosco's death on the argument that he could not be charged twice for the same offense.

When San Pedro did not grant Ivler's motion and his subsequent appeal, he went to the Pasig Regional Trial Court Branch 157.

The higher court, however, upheld San Pedro's ruling and Ivler filed a petition with the high tribunal.

In its ruling, the tribunal said "there shall be no splitting of charges" against Ivler which were both classified under Article 365 of the Revised Penal Code.

"We hold that prosecutions under Article 365 should proceed with a single charge regardless of the number or severity of the consequences," it ruled.

Meanwhile, Supreme Court spokesperson and administrator Midas Marquez said the ruling would not lead to Ivler's release from the Quezon City Jail.

"The present decision ... has nothing to do with the clearing of the out of [former Presidential Chief of Staff Undersecretary] Rosario Ebarle Jr. which is why Ivler is being detained," Marquez said in a text message to the inquirer.

Ivler was jailed after he allegedly shot dead Rosario Ebarle Jr. following a traffic altercation last year in Quezon City. He was subsequently charged with murder.

Ivler is also facing assault charges filed by agents of the National Bureau of Investigation after two of them were wounded in a shoot-out with him in January.

"A GOOD surprise" was how Madonna Aguilar, mother of road rage suspect Jesus Ivler, described the dismissing by the Supreme Court of one of the cases filed against her son.

MESSAGES

80
KING SUE
1930 2010
King Sue Ham & Sausage Co., Inc.
Celebrates Eighty Remarkable Years in the Industry
With an enduring promise of delivering
A Taste Fit for a King
"Time does not transform. Passion towards the arts."

Our History, our Foundation

Message from the President

Warmest greetings from:
POLYGLASS
Synergy
Wills
EXCEL
Lexton
MGM
GOOD YEAR
TURBO PHILS. INC.

ONE ALERT IS ALL IT TAKES
Get breaking news on your mobile phone to stay ahead of the weather.
Text: ING <space> ON <space> BREAKING
to 4467 to receive SMS alerts as news breaks.
INQUIRER mobile news

Binay: Declare Bangkal firecracker-free zone

By Tina G. Santos

THE MAKATI City government yesterday directed officials of Barangay Bangkal to immediately pass an ordinance which would ban the sale and use of all kinds of fireworks and firecrackers in the area, particularly in celebrations during the holiday season.

Mayor Jejomar Erwin Binay Jr. said he issued the order to prevent any untoward incident which could lead to an explosion in the barangay where the Pasay Tower complex is located.

Since July 12, oil from the pipeline owned by Fire Philippine Industrial Corp. (FPIC) has been leaking into the basement of the 23-story building, seeping in the street underneath it or to an undeveloped lot in the area.

Binay said Dasi should the proposed ordinance imposing a ban on pyrotechnic materials be passed, people should immediately be informed about it.

He added that the ordinance should provide no other than the official areas in the barangay have been cleaned up and cleared of any oil contaminants.

Meanwhile, Task Force West Tower will conduct a random check of households within a 300-meter range of the condominium to check for the presence of petrochemical vapors.

The city's Makati Health Department also started its profiling of residents within the 100-meter radius. The department has been coordinating with barangay health-related personnel and conducting regular water tests as part of the city's contingency plans.

Binay earlier ordered the task force to start the construction of cutouts early that would drain contaminated water retrieved that it enters the basement of the condominium.

To date, water mixed with oil products continues to seep into the basement of the condominium, despite MMDA's announcement that it had patched up the holes in its pipeline.

Jo Carlo Arcilla, director of the University of the Philippines' National Institute of Geological Sciences, earlier explained that had continued to seep into the basement because the oil that leaked from the pipe had already spread underground.

"Whatever it is that is seeping in the basement of Silver Tower is just a small portion of what's underground," he said.

The task force will also conduct additional exploratory wells to determine exactly the extent of the ground contamination.

In a related development, Binay will hold a dialogue with residents tomorrow to update them on what the city government has been doing to solve the oil leak problem.

Mandaluyong City welcomes electricity-powered tricycles

By Hitz Calleja

MANDALUYONG-friendly tricycles will soon be plying the streets of Mandaluyong City courtesy of a P1.39,000 grant from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Mayor Benhur Abalos welcomed the entry into the city of the electricity-powered tricycles or e-trikes as he said the project would not just benefit tricycle drivers but residents as well.

A total of 22 eight-seater e-trikes will be distributed to the city's tricycle drivers within the next three to four months.

Two of the 22 eco-friendly vehicles recently arrived in the city and will be tested today by members of the Mandaluyong Federation of Tricycle Associations as part of the project's test run.

Abalos, meanwhile, instructed the drivers to test the reliability for 24 hours nonstop to see how long and how far these could go.

"All of us will benefit here. But at the end of the day, we are not forcing these e-trikes on the people. We just want the people to realize that this is possible," he said.

According to him, e-trike drivers would be able to save P150 daily based on the gasoline tarbut that an ordinary tricycle needs P225 worth of gasoline to travel 300 kilometers while it would cost an e-trike P45. It can last two hours—the time it would take for a tricycle to travel 200 kilometers.

E-trikes also do not emit greenhouse gases and thus, do not contribute to climate change, Abalos said.

"We will also put up and operate two charging stations probably along Pioneer Street and Jgl. Boulevard Street in Barangay Plainview. Let's show the beauty of the tricycle as a mode of Unimportation (but is clean) and efficient," he added.

Jhobail Rimbin, ADB specialist in Southeast Asia, said they would turn over the additional 20 e-trikes to the city government in the next three to four months.

"We plan to do this on a large-scale through other communities in the Philippines," Rimbin said.

Rimbin said their e-trikes use lithium ion phosphate batteries which can run up to 200 kilometers on a single charge.

DID YOU KNOW

MARIKINA, the Shoe Capital of the Philippines, has its own Shoe Museum. Opened in 2011, its collection includes 800 pairs of former First Lady Imelda Marcos' footwear. Admission is P50 per person.

Schatti Bonifacio, Inquirer Research

Metro bus deployment system eyed

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT of Transportation and Communications is preparing the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system in Metro Manila in partnership (PPP) with the project expected to be ready for investors by the fourth quarter of next year.

In a presentation at the 1st Philippine Electric Vehicle National roundtable, Transportation Undersecretary Antonio Batuhan said the project is now in the feasibility study stage in Cebu City and a committee of local and foreign investors had already expressed their interest to participate.

A feasibility study would also be conducted for Metro Manila to determine, among others, which routes would be covered by the BRT system, he added.

According to Batuhan, the BRT system would likely include the stretch of Edsa.

The feasibility study, however, would have to be done since hundreds of buses now ply Edsa on a daily basis. The major thoroughfare was also being served by the Metro Rail Transit 3, part of the envisioned Metro Manila subway loop.

The project made perfect sense for Cebu City, he said, since there was no railway system there.

The BRT system involves the establishment or assignment of dedicated lanes to buses whose drivers will have to follow specific times of arrival and departure on particular routes. In addition, buses on the BRT lanes can only pick up or drop off passengers in designated stops.

Batuhan said that while waiting for a feasibility study to be conducted for Metro Manila, a single dispatch system would have to be quickly implemented to help prepare bus operators, drivers and the riding public for the possible adoption of a BRT system.

"For Metro Manila, there should be just one cooperative to be in charge of dispatching the buses," he said. "It's also a matter of changing the mind-set of commuters. They often have to be trained to the system."

Batuhan explained that Cebu City was first targeted for the BRT system as it was the most logical mass transit alternative to a city without a railway system.

Were Ampatuans drug traffickers?

IT IT was indeed Datu Unsay Mayor Andal Ampatuan Jr. who interdicted a shoot-unarmed civilians and murder people in Ampatuan, Maguindanao province a year ago, he and his men were most probably "high" on drugs or alcohol.

The brutality of the dead police logic Men and women shot at close range while on their knees begging for their lives, the victims exposed by shot with automatic weapons even when they were already dead, and were also shot in the genitals.

People who raped and killed without mercy were not in their senses when they committed their heinous acts, according to a study.

They were video drunk with alcohol or high on drugs, the study concluded.

Those who were responsible for the massacre in Maguindanao were probably junkies because of the circumstances of their acts.

"There are reports that the Ampatuans stretched themselves not only by using government funds but most probably by being involved in the illegal drugs trade.

They couldn't have built those mini-military post mansions—one was estimated to cost P300 million—not allegedly stolen government funds alone.

Government money would not have been enough for them to maintain luxurious lifestyles.

For the Ampatuans, money seemed to flow endlessly like a river.

There are reports, albeit unconfirmed, that one of the Ampatuan members has a basement that had been converted into a studio. (marijuana)laboratory.

Reports from General Santos City say that a relative of the Ampatuans is allegedly involved in illegal activities like smuggling, illegal drugs trade, illegal mining and illegal gambling.

The Ampatuan relative is reportedly under the protection of the local police.

The man allegedly very close to a former chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP).

PNP chief Reed Bacalso should send investigators to the area to look into the reports.

* * *

Billionaire and former Ambassador to Laos Tony Calleagasin Chua has come up with a masterpiece in luminous living up to the nomination.

His Glenlore Properties and Management Corp. is marketing the construction of what the firm considers the country's first master-planned mountainside township, Lenaka Residences.

The village will be located "high above sea level on the slopes of Sitio(to Batulao—and Tuktukan to Lemery, Batangas, Batangas province."

The weather is cool and the air pollution-free, with thick forests and vegetation, according to Chua.

Welcome to the country's one & only true private cinema.

My Cinema is where you can enjoy the latest movies, hangout and party or do experiences, personalized according to you, with the cutting-edge technology.

Greenbelt

BOOK AND BUY YOUR TICKETS AT THE NEW ENHANCED SURESEATS.COM

METROBRIEFS

Woman found dead in Manila

A WOMAN was found dead in a grassy area in front of Manila City Hall yesterday morning. The victim, identified as Angelica Pangilinan, 34, of Lavenia Street, Malate, Manila, was found sprawled on her back near the ornamental underpass. She had cuts on her forehead and left eyebrow, a bruise on her left eyelid and stab wounds on the back and other parts of the body. She was dressed in a black blouse and a pair of denim jeans but her shoes were missing. Eyewitnesses told Jay Santos of the Manila Police District Homicide Section 6 concerned by garbage scavengers who immediately told the police of their find. Santos said the woman worked as a payday hostess during the day but moonlighted as a sex worker at night. He added that the victim may have been stabbed by one of her clients. A bag was found near the victim but Pangilinan's friends told the police that it did not belong to her. The bag contained some paper and makeup.

Jayson T. Gomez

Tonight reporter needs your help

FERNANDO "Ding" M. Cuttaco, 45, the defense reporter of People's Journal Tonight, was diagnosed last year with chronic kidney disease and Stage 5 diabetes. Because of his kidney problem, he needs to undergo dialysis twice a week, while doctors try to manage his diabetes. The long-term solution, he doctors say, is a kidney transplant which will cost around P1 million, an amount he cannot raise as he is already finding it hard to continue his twice-weekly dialysis sessions at a government-run hospital. Cuttaco, who lives by himself and has been unable to return to work because of his condition, is barely getting by and has been relying on the kindness of his friends for his medical needs. Those who want to help can call him at 0921-6909805. Donations can be deposited to his Chinabank account (account name: Fernando M. Cuttaco; savings account 201 40 1986 2).

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Chanco

NEWS of a second explosion inside Pike River Mine devastates family members of miners trapped underground. It is one of New Zealand's worst mining disasters. AFP

29 dead after second blast at NZ mine

GREYMOUTH, New Zealand—A massive explosion deep inside a New Zealand coal mine on Wednesday claimed hopes of rescuing 29 miners caught underground by a similar blast five days ago. The prime minister declared the disaster a national tragedy.

News if any of the missing men had survived Friday's initial explosion at the Pike River Mine, police said rescue could have only through the second. Both blasts were believed caused by explosive, toxic gases swirling in the tunnels leading into a section that had also prevented rescuers from entering the mine to search for the missing.

"There was another massive explosion underground, and based on that explosion no one would have survived," said Police Supt. Gary Knowles, who is in charge of the rescue operation. "The blast was prolific, just as severe as the first blast."

It was one of New Zealand's worst mining disasters. The country's industry is relatively small compared to other nations and considered generally safe, with 218 deaths in 114 years of the most recent tragedy.

The accident also devastated families who—buoyed by the survival tale of Chile's 33 buried miners—had clung to hope for more than five days that their relatives could escape alive.

"New Zealand has been devastated by the news that we have all been dreading," New Zealand Prime Minister John Key said in a nationally televised news conference. "This is a national tragedy."

He said flags would fly at half staff on Thursday and Parliament would adjourn its session in respect for the dead men.

Officials said early investigations will to come would confirm the exact cause of Wednesday's explosion.

Pike River Coal chief executive Peter Whittall said rescue teams were not doing anything that could have set off the explosion, and conditions inside the mine were such it could have happened at any time.

"It was a natural event, it could have happened on the second day, it could have happened on the third day," he told reporters.

Family members who gathered for a regular daily briefing on the rescue operation's progress were stunned told of the second blast and that no one could survive. AP

Probers say bridge sway set off stampede

PHNOM PENH—A swaying bridge loaded with thousands of people sparked mass panic and set off a raging stampede that killed more than 350 people in Cambodia's capital.

Royon TV, which serves as a mouthpiece for the government, reported on Wednesday that an official commission set up to probe Monday's tragedy found many people on the bridge were from the countryside and someone it was rumored for a evaporation bridge to swap.

In their fear the bridge was collapsing, they tried to run off, the commission said.

Information Minister Khieu Kanharith on Wednesday said the official toll had reached 351 dead with 395 injured.

Prime Minister Hun Sen described the stampede as the biggest tragedy since the communist Khmer Rouge's reign of terror, which killed an estimated 1.7 million people in the late 1970s.

The premier declared a day of national mourning for Thursday.

The tragedy happened on Monday evening when tens of thousands people were attending a free concert on an island in the Bassac River in Phnom Penh. As many as 2 million people are believed to have come to the capital for celebrations of a three-day holiday marking the end of the monsoon season.

Thousands of Cambodians on Wednesday lit candles and made offerings to appease the souls of those who perished.

"I asked their souls to rest in peace and not to be angry with those still alive in the capital, especially our family members and relatives," said Meng Heuth, a 52-year-old woman who had set food and burned incense and a candle in front of her home.

Witnesses had criticized authorities for causing congestion by blocking a second bridge across the river despite the huge crowds that gathered for the festival, and for a slow and confused emergency response. A huge crowd had come to celebrate the last night of the celebration.

The investigating committee, which included Cabinet ministers and city officials, said the panic was exacerbated by the crowds' people had breathing because they were so closely packed together.

The committee estimated 7,000-8,000 people were on the bridge, adding up to a load of 350-400 tons. AP

POLICE officers light candles, lay flowers and make offerings to appease the souls of those who died in Monday's stampede on the Cambodian bridge on the Bassac River in Cambodia's capital. REUTERS

WORLDBRIEFS

Yemen suicide bomber kills 17 Shiites

SANAA—A Yemeni security official on Wednesday said a suicide car bomber struck a convoy of Shiites on their way to a religious ceremony, killing 17 and wounding more than 10 people. The official said authorities suspected that al-Qaeda was behind the attack, which took place on a road in the al-Jawf province, 170 kilometers east of the capital, Sanaa. AP

April 29 royal wedding at Westminster Abbey

LONDON—Prince William and Kate Middleton are to marry on April 29 next year at Westminster Abbey, the historic London church where his mother Diana's funeral was held in 1997, royal officials announced on Tuesday. The couple want to turn their wedding day into an international party to what is set to be the biggest royal event in Britain since William's parents, Prince Charles and Diana married in 1981, aides said. AFP

Glitch hits Indon airliner; flights grounded

JAKARTA—Indonesia's national carrier is scrambling to fix a computer glitch that has grounded domestic flights for hundreds of passengers. Garuda Indonesia spokesperson Pujobroto on Wednesday said the problem started on Tuesday when the airline tried to upgrade software for seven schedules of its 2,800 pilots and cabin crew. He said a technician failed to plug in a data cable before the switch and that wiped the system clean. AP

Pope: Vatican acted late in Legion scandal

MEXICO CITY—Pope Benedict XVI lamented that the Vatican acted "slowly and late" in a scandal surrounding the Legionaries of Christ, and a Vatican official called on Tuesday for an investigation into who covered up for the conservative order's disgraced founder. The Pope insisted, however, that the order has done good and should not be disbanded despite the double life of the late Rev. Marcial Maciel, who was discovered to have abused seminarians and fathered at least three children. AP

US consumers feel less angst from debt

WASHINGTON—Debt isn't stressing people as much as it had been, but 231 consumers remain gun-shy about embarking on a big holiday spending spree. An Associated Press-GfK Poll also suggests Americans are more disciplined about using their credit cards. Deep into a stubbornly harsh economic downturn, more people than last year say they pay off their balances right away, and fewer say they make credit card purchases if they lack enough money at the time. AP

Groups cite gains against land mine deaths

GENEVA—Advocacy groups say at least 5,066 people died last year because they stepped on a land mine or other unexploded devices left behind in war. The lowest number since recording began nearly a dozen years ago. The report was issued on Wednesday at the United Nations by Mines Action Canada, Human Rights Watch and other groups. AP

General strike cripples debt-hit Portugal

LISBON—Portugal ground to a halt on Wednesday as unions staged the country's first general strike in more than two decades in protest spending cuts that the government says are vital to avoid financial disaster.

Both public and private sector workers joined the one-day strike, which follows similar stoppages in other troubled euro economies such as Greece and France, as governments are forced into unpopular cost-saving programs.

The transport sector was crippled by the stoppage with no flights taking off or landing at any airport. More than three-quarters of train services were canceled, and 60 percent of bus services were also scrapped, operators said.

Lisbon's metro system remained closed for the day while the capital's ferries stayed in their docking berths.

The strike, the first since 1988 that private and public sector workers have come together, also hit banks, media and postal deliveries.

The "national" aspect has been stoked by government plans for sclerosis-ravaged spending cuts and tax rises, worth some $6.05

LISBON members block the entrance to Volkswagen's Autoeuropa plant near Portugal's northern city of Porto during Wednesday's general strike. REUTERS

billion, which are currently being pushed through Parliament.

The package of spending cuts is intended to reduce the deficit from 7.3 percent of GDP to 4.6 percent next year in a bid to quell growing international unease over the state of its finances.

Union leaders said the strike had a "massive impact" on the private sector, in particular on the automotive with less than 10 percent of the workforce turning up at Volkswagen's Autoeuropa plant near the northern city of Porto.

"The mobilization of workers is enormous," said Manuel Carvalho da Silva, the head of the major CGTP confederation.

The strike began on the stroke of midnight with union members setting up picket lines across the country, including outside Lisbon's international airport. AFP

Scottish kilts part of plans for scanner protests

CHICAGO—Travelers dismayed by airport body scans are fond of airports on Wednesday with the makings of any good protest: handmade fliers, eye-catching phrases, slogan-bearing T-shirts—and Scottish kilts.

The loosely organized effort dubbed National Opt-Out Day hopes to highlight what opponents say are invasive security screenings. Others fear it will merely snarl pre-Thanksgiving airline operations on one of the busiest travel days of the year.

Robert Shelton wasn't worried about delayed flights, maybe just wrong lessons.

The 63-year-old from Georgetown, Texas, said he planned for weeks to wear a traditional kilt—sans shredder—to display his outrage over body scanners and aggressive pat-downs while catching his Wednesday flight out of Austin.

"If you give them an inch, they won't just take an inch. Pretty soon you're getting sanitized to get into a football game," the IT specialist said.

One browser-based protest group called We Won't Fly said hundreds of activists vowed to go 24 US airports on Wednesday to pass out fliers with messages such as "You have the right to say, 'No radiation exposure, please!' No groping of genitals? Yay, I opt out."

"If 99 percent of people normally agree to go through scanners, we hope that falls to 95 percent," said one organizer, George Donnelly, 39. "That would make it a success."

If enough people opt for a pat-down rather than a body scan, security line delays could quickly cascade.

More than 42 million people plan to travel over the Thanksgiving holiday, with just more than 1.6 million flying—a 2.5 percent increase in fliers from last year. Body scans for passengers chosen at random make up little as 10 seconds. New pat-down procedures, which involve a security worker touching traveler's crotch and chest areas, can take 4 minutes or longer.

Several travel companies, including Travelocity, planned to issue refunds or rebates to Wednesday to try to guide where and why delays happen. But with a million users already hindering travel to Western states on Tuesday, determining if weather or protests are behind delays across the nation's interconnected air travel system could be nearly impossible. AP

Celebrating The Power of PRINT!!!

Felipa R. Olarte
VP for Advertising – Philippine Daily Inquirer
United Print Media Group President

Welcome Message

The UPMG is excitedly over our very first Print Media Congress this year.

Taking a cue from our partners in the Cannes, Lions and Spikes Asia ad festivals, we have integrated the Tinta Awards with an assembly of some of the industry's biggest names, to speak on the power of this print medium.

The first congress boasts topnotch speakers both local and foreign, beginning with the country's communications secretary Sonny Coloma. John Merrifield of "Think Asia Pacific" Singapore and Ted Dunn (4th on JWT South East Asia) join our very own Sandy Prieto-Romualdez of the Philippine Daily Inquirer and Dondi Guerrero of BBDO Guerrero Proximity delivered.

Our 2nd Tinta Awards event also flaunts a panel of judges made up of consistently heavyweights, all throwing their support behind the unflagging influence of print advertising on the media landscape. In fact, we had a blast going through hundreds of entries in the ancient categories – all of them showing how dynamic and exciting the medium continues to be.

The Philippine print industry is flourishing more than ever, what with the introduction of 3D innovation in newspapers and more and more vibrant publications is keeping with new technology, we continue bringing our readers an ever-evolving take on news and information. All while keeping our commitment to bring them the best of what our editors, writers, journalists, photographers and visual artists have to offer.

Here's to many years of UPMG's Print Media Congress and Tinta Awards!

Mrs. Paciencia N. Pineda
Chairman Emeritus, UPMG

Message

Back in 2 a new comer the United Print Media Group (UPMG) the merger of PRIMO and PRADO, we have always dedicated this organization and dignified it towards the possession of excellence to the industry and our confederate.

The 2ND TINTA AWARDS and the 1ST PRINT MEDIA CONGRESS are tangible testimonies of this continuing solid commitment. In recognizing the most creative works in print advertising through Tinta, we hope to uplift our standards in the country and pave the way for a world class, globally competitive Philippine print advertising industry.

The Congress on the other hand, is a great opportunity to gather the best minds in creative print media to share and learn from each other as we open the doors for the wider genre of young, fresh people who will be the future of print in the Philippines. On top of these, of course, are our various other projects and advocacies programs keeping UPMG alive and ever stronger.

I would like to thank and congratulate the organizers, staff, donors and sponsors as well as all the members of the UPMG for the success of Tinta and the Congress. I hope we keep the enthusiasm, energy and cooperation as we look forward to more achievements of the Group.

Angel V. Guevara
2nd Tinta Awards Chairman
Director, UPMG

Message

What a year it's been preparing for the 2010 Tinta Awards. We have joined over a number of outstanding and compelling visual works, all of which demonstrate a thriving and highly creative print industry. Indeed the great fans down there known to fans of comedy up, we could our distinguished judges deliberated the most difficult and relevant work.

Tonight's Tinta Awards will surely be an amazing moment in our ongoing quest to empower the local print industry. We thank all the participants for their remarkable energy and creativity. We also thank our partners and sponsors who share our passion for incredible print work.

It's a huge privilege to be a part of the Tinta Awards and its greater creative context. I look forward to tonight and the coming years as we continue to empower creative minds for the benefit of our people and culture.

I[st] Print Media Congress

It's the first UPMG Print Media Congress that has a power packed roster of speakers.

JOHN MERRIFIELD- Creative Al large TBWA Asia Pacific, Singapore

SAT SUAN KIM- Regional CCO JWT South East Asia, based KCO, Jus, Jakarta

DAVID GUERRERO- Chairman & CCO BBDO Guerrero

Sandy Romualdez
President
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chairman
22nd Advertising Congress

Sonny Coloma
Keynote Speaker
Secretary
Communications Group

The congress will tackle the power of the print media industry from the aspect of creative print advertising execution,marketing and sales, editorial direction, and public relations. Over 200 delegates have already signed up, mostly from the advertising industry, the publication group, the academe and students.

November 20, 2010 The Blue Leaf, Banyan Function Room
102 Park Avenue, McKinley Hill Village, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City

The UPMG: Print Is Powerful

The United Print Media Group (UPMG), a progressive media organization comprised of a number of premier Philippine publications, celebrates nearly a decade of successful print media advocacy.

Established in 2001 with the merger of Print Media Organization (PRIMO) and Print Advertising Organization (PRADO), the UPMG has powerfully championed a number of projects, humanitarian initiatives, industry innovations, and honorable philosophies.

Today, as pundits fuss over the relevance of print media in the digital age, the UPMG stays true to its mission, firmly believing in the perennial relevance and power of print.

Standing (L to R): **Maria M. Aleaga, Sandra B. Cruz-Angeles, Haydn Kiefer, Nestor L. Mafnas, Ace B. Tamayo**; Seated (L to R): **Vivienne Rustia-Frial, Angel V. Guevara, Dolores J. Dominguez**

(From left) Dan Palad, Editor

The 2010 Tinta Awards

The Tinta Awards is a prestigious print media awards event established by the UPMG to recognize, honor, and reward the year's best and brightest print media achievements and the people behind them.

Tonight will be the 2nd Tinta Awards and a number of trophies are at stake, including the highly-prized Tinta Print Agency of the Year.

JUDGES

WHAT'S INSIDE
■ Cardona rescues Meralco again /A24

Editor Teddyboy S. Molavidora
Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa
SPORTS
Mobile Alert | Website | E-mail

■ Federer whips Murray in 2 sets at ATP finals /A25

Two boxers fighting for golds

PH chessers remain 2nd; Smart Gilas five blows it

By Francis T.J. Ochoa

GUANGZHOU, CHINA—Boxer pugilists Annie Albania and Rey Saludar secured themselves of at least a silver medal and a each medalball with a pair of Muaythai performances Wednesday in the boxing semifinals of the 16th Asian Games at the Foshan Gymnasium.

The unforgiving Albania viciously pummeled Japanese Ito Aya Shimono, 16-1, in the women's under-51 kg class to set up a clash with the favored homewoman Ren Hua Cassens, who plodded to a workmanlike 11-7 conquest of Indian world champion Mary Kom Hmangte.

Saludar, working tutored combing jabs, kept Kazuki Kobayashi of Japan at bay with a steady stream of left hooks in the second round to highlight a 13-6 doubling that catapulted the 23-year-old Filipino into the final of the under-52 kg division.

Saludar's battle to the gold medal—and the formative PI-caffeine bonus included 3:—6 homestown bet Chang Wang, who knocked out Thai in the third round to empower past Indian Enamorgi Mayengbam, 6-5, in the other fly-weight semifinal bout.

Later in the evening, though, Mr. Saludar, Rey's younger brother, settled for the bronze after dropping a lopsided 1-12 decision to counterpunching Kazakh Serzhan Shalgyn in the under-49 kg flight flyweight class.

In chess, Grandmasters Wesley So and John Paul Gomez bustled their untried rivals to power the Philippines past Kyrgyzstan, 2.5-1.5, and keep the country in second place after seven rounds at the Guangzhou Chess Institute.

So whipped Igor Shatkovskiy in the top board while Gomez thumped Stanislav Anuchin in board two, giving the Philippines 12 points behind unbeaten China (14 points) with two rounds to go in the 22-nation event.

GM Eugene Torre secured the Filipinos' fourth straight triumph by downing veteran Mamir Nanbaev Torgomyn in their board four encounter. GM Darwin Laylo got weighed by Sergei Alyffeiev in board three.

The two automatic silver medals, which secured Albania and Rey Saludar PI million each under the lucrative scheme launched by telecommunications tycoon Manny V. Pangilinan for the boxing squad, eased the pain of defeat that stung the most among the country's losses on an uneven frame Wednesday.

South Korea pounded Smart Gilas Philippines on the boards and thrashed a sharper game en route to a 73-68 victory at the Huangpu Gymnasium that eliminated the Filipinos in the quarterfinals of the men's basketball event.

Oh Seh-eun knocked in 19 points while skipper Lee Jae-hoong added 12 as Korea advanced to the semifinals while relegating the Philippines to the classification phase.

The Koreans overwhelmed the cold-shooting Filipinos, 36-23, and had more assists, 16-3.

Henry Ong-led and Sheila Mae Ibero, the leading figures in their respective sports, also failed in their medal chances.

And Mitra Rawas, the gold medalist in the men's bowling singles, slipped out of the medal reckoning after a 1,267 series that left him in 11th place.

REY Saludar acknowledges cheers after hammering his Japanese foe. AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Rey Saludar (left) and Annie Albania (right) are all smiles as they pose with their silver medals after the boxing competitions in the 16th Asian Games at the Foshan Gymnasium, securing themselves of at least a silver medal and a cash windfall that could even triple before the week is over.

The volume punching Albania somehow managed to crowd the limelight from what was already a spectacular Saludar victory, but Annie once marched Japanese Aya Shimono to 16-1 punishment that looked even more one-sidedwhelming than the final score.

"I was expecting the victory," Albania said after the match. "I did well because I know how to fight my opponent."

Unimpeding body shots and snappy combinations only Albania took a 6-0 lead after the first round, opening up Shimono for the kills in the succeeding rounds.

The win set up Albania for a rematch-winning final showdown with hometown bet Ren Cassens for the under-51 kg crown Friday.

Rey watched her way to the finals against four-time world champion Mary Kom Hmangte with scores 13-7 victory that featured an heavy-hitting style that dented the Filipina's chin at the gold against China.

In Laos, Mer Soriano lost her second-round match to Korean Jang Seo-young in the women's under-50 kg bantie while men's kata standout Noel Espinosa lost to Ismael Alhadef of Saudi, 5-3, to also surrender their medal bids at the Guangdong Gymnasium.

Marcus Pakdiliao, the veteran kumoka from Cagayan de Oro City, will meet double-bet bronze of the country's medal hopes in the quest values she competes in the under-55 kg women's kumite while Rolando Laguimas will also join for a medal when he competes in the men's under-67 kg class Thursday.

Laguimas drew a first-round bye while Pakdiliao got a go against tough Malaysian Sothearat Gopalakrishnan.

The Philippines continued to lag behind Southeast Asian nations in the overall medal tally with two gold medals along with two silvers and four bronzes.

Thailand has nine golds, seven silvers and 20 bronzes to lead the Asian nations. Malaysia (6-1-6-10), Indonesia (4-9-11) and Singapore (4-4-6) remained ahead of the country.

China continued to rule the medal race with 171 gold medals, 91 silvers and 86 bronzes. South Korea gratuitously wound up second place with 70 golds, with Japan a far third with 36 victories.

Irene Rhoderol with 2:39.20 points after five dives at the Aoti Aquatics Center to rank eighth in the 1-meter women's springboard final behind China's Wu Minxia (328.35). Two Malaysians finished ahead of Perez at third and fourth.

A crunch throw away in the Aoti Main Stadium, Degroff also struggled against quality opposition.

Degroff completed a best leap of 7.52m in the men's long jump and finished sixth in the event won by South Korean Kim Deuk-hyeon (8.11).

At the Tianhe Sporting venue, Rivera stumbled with a 10:44.76 in the second block of the men's 5,000m and finished out of the steeplechase finals after placing seventh with a 10:40.39 in the prelims.

Daisy Wandan finished with a 22:92 in the four female bowler, landing seventh ahead of Lisa del Rosario, who rolled a 2267 total to wind up 14th.

Cold, misfiring Pinoys bow to S. Korea

By Jose Mesiano

GUANGZHOU—For 19 tense minutes, Asian Gilas Pilipinas wouldn't buy a three-point shot.

South Korea exploited that cold shooting by the Smart Gilas Pilipinas five to win, 74-66, yesterday and book a semifinal tilt vs the 16th Asian Games basketball competition at the Huangpu Gymnasium here.

After Dacers four-point play gave the Filipinos a near of the lead at 19-13, before the Nationals were through a frustrating shooting slump—including 1-8 triple clips in those 19 minutes—that doomed their bid for a top three finish in their country's 3rd-time quest.

"Mas-sa'sa-pasin-same from the inside," said FEU coach Rajio Tenorio. "We couldn't make our outside shots and that was our game.

"We clicked cookie it in the second, third but we'll still go out and fight for third."

The Koreans, who will face Japan in the semifinals, surely flexed the standard area and outscored us rebounding the Filipino support.

Centered by taller and quick defenders, Marvin Lacsina, Cesin and skipper Chris Tiu, who accounted for most of the men's three-point-ers in past games, had considerable trouble from the outside without in their flow.

Center Jeff Taulava had little opposition in the paint and unloaded 23 points, including eight in the third where the Taimals scored within 51-50.

But the Koreans held their ground and, by the time Lacsina drilled two successive threes for 66-72, the outcome was no longer in doubt.

"They made all their open shots and stopped our run," said Tiu. "I guess shooting decided the outcome."

Japan hacked out a 92-75 rout of North Korea, which will be the country's foe today in its drive to secure fifth place.

Defending champion China and Asian No. 1 Iran were guaranteeing for the two other semifinal slots against Qatar and Jordan, respectively.

If they beat the Hamdi-Korean, the Filipinos need another victory over the winner of the two other losing semifinalists to end up fifth, matching their finish in the 1998 Asiad in Bangkok.

The Philippines also lost to South Korea in the 2002 Busan Asiad on a buzzer-beating triple that downed the Filipinos a class at the gold against China.

The country which missed the Doha Asiad in 2006 due to a FIBA suspension, has since finished outside of the semifinals since the 1982 Asiad in New Delhi.

THE PHILIPPINES' Marvel Barroso (right) puts up a shot against South Korea's Lee Seung-jae in yesterday's quarterfinal game. AP

MEDAL STANDINGS, 16TH ASIAN GAMES, GUANGZHOU, CHINA

Country	G	S	B	T
China	171	91	86	348
S. Korea	70	68	73	211
Japan	36	38	74	148
Iran	20	14	17	51
Thailand	9	7	20	36
Uzbekistan	7	14	11	32
Malaysia	6	14	11	31
Kazakhstan	7	10	11	28
India	7	12	10	29
Singapore	4	4	6	14
Kuwait	3	3	3	9
Qatar	3	3	3	9
United Arab Emirates	3	2	3	8
Pakistan	3	2	3	8
Philippines	2	3	8	13
Mongolia	1	2	3	6

Big cash rewards await Annie, Rey

By Francis T.J. Ochoa

GUANGZHOU—Annie Albania was all smiles as she made her way to the Wednesday night.

She and Rey Saludar are now one laugh their way to the bank.

Albania and Saludar hammered out impressive performances in the semifinals of the boxing competitions in the 16th Asian Games at the Foshan Gymnasium, assuring themselves of at least a silver medal and a cash windfall that could even triple before the week is over.

The volume punching Albania somehow managed to crowd the limelight from what was already a spectacular Saludar victory, but Annie once marched Japanese Aya Shimono to 16-1 punishment that looked even more one-sidedwhelming than the final score.

"I was expecting the victory," Albania said after the match. "I did well because I know how to fight my opponent."

Unimpeding body shots and snappy combinations only Albania took a 6-0 lead after the first round, opening up Shimono for the kills in the succeeding rounds.

The win set up Albania for a rematch-winning final showdown with hometown bet Ren Cassens for the under-51 kg crown Friday.

Rey watched her way to the finals against four-time world champion Mary Kom Hmangte with scores 13-7 victory that featured an heavy-hitting style that dented the Filipina's chin at the gold against China.

ALBANIA

In Laos, Mer Soriano lost her second-round match to Korean Jang Seo-young in the women's under-50 kg bantie while men's kata standout Noel Espinosa lost to Ismael Alhadef of Saudi, 5-3, to also surrender their medal bids at the Guangdong Gymnasium.

Marcus Pakdiliao, the veteran kumoka from Cagayan de Oro City, will meet double-bet bronze of the country's medal hopes in the quest values she competes in the under-55 kg women's kumite while Rolando Laguimas will also join for a medal when he competes in the men's under-67 kg class Thursday.

Laguimas drew a first-round bye while Pakdiliao got a go against tough Malaysian Sothearat Gopalakrishnan.

The Philippines continued to lag behind Southeast Asian nations in the overall medal tally with two gold medals along with two silvers and four bronzes.

Thailand has nine golds, seven silvers and 20 bronzes to lead the Asian nations. Malaysia (6-1-6-10), Indonesia (4-9-11) and Singapore (4-4-6) remained ahead of the country.

China continued to rule the medal race with 171 gold medals, 91 silvers and 86 bronzes. South Korea gratuitously wound up second place with 70 golds, with Japan a far third with 36 victories.

Irene Rhoderol with 2:39.20 points after five dives at the Aoti Aquatics Center to rank eighth in the 1-meter women's springboard final behind China's Wu Minxia (328.35). Two Malaysians finished ahead of Perez at third and fourth.

A crunch throw away in the Aoti Main Stadium, Degroff also struggled against quality opposition.

Degroff completed a best leap of 7.52m in the men's long jump and finished sixth in the event won by South Korean Kim Deuk-hyeon (8.11).

At the Tianhe Sporting venue, Rivera stumbled with a 10:44.76 in the second block of the men's 5,000m and finished out of the steeplechase finals after placing seventh with a 10:40.39 in the prelims.

Daisy Wandan finished with a 22:92 in the four female bowler, landing seventh ahead of Lisa del Rosario, who rolled a 2267 total to wind up 14th.

Confident Rey Saludar prays for fair scoring

By Raouh Trinidad

GUANGZHOU—Southpaw Rey Saludar exploded with both first and fastest his best shots to outscore his Japanese foe, 13-6, but the use of a poor farmer from Mindanao can have his hands fall when he goes for the flyweight gold medal against a tough, taller Chinese foe in today's Asian Games boxing finals.

Lashed in a right, even hands in the early part, 3-3, Saludar connected with counters and combinations early in the second round to score seven consecutive points, 13-3, before pressing harder until the final buzzer.

"Dinaan-in ko lahat ng mahalan, maglo-out-jugad ako (I landed all my big punches, but I also got tired)," Saludar told the long-run.

The effort sent him hurtling on his way to the dugout.

If it's any consolation, his gold-medal foe, Chinese Chang Wang, was stopped and pressed

ANALYSIS

to the limit by India's Mayengbam Singh, in the succeeding semifinal duel.

Saludar watched that fight, seen by the Chinese, 8-8, and wealthy declared he can handle Chang.

"Kaya ako yan, kasi kaang ang gawgaw' ang judges (It's said he can beat Chang, as long as the judges play it fair)," said Ed Picson, national boxing association executive director.

Then, Dolfed, had been worried nearly second hours here, some wondering homecoming fighters, and some foreign journalists have expressed hope the situation would not deteriorate further during the finals, where several Chinese boxers have qualified.

There's an available class on Chang, Saludar's championship opponent, except that he's a year older (25) and a couple of inches taller (5-foot-6) than Saludar.

However, Chang, who received five consecutive blows from India's Singh in the second round alone yesterday, could prove an easier target than Gen Kamudo, the rugged, hard-pressing Japanese Saludar beat yesterday.

He did not say it but Saludar could also try to cash in superior weapon they had sharpened last Saturday to inflict on his Japanese victim yesterday.

"Yung kondisi ay hindi kasi napili, dinadag na lang 'yan (You can't force a knockout, it comes on its own)," Saludar explained.

Saludar's Chinese foe may have the home crowd behind him, but the Filipino gold medal bet has the bigger guards, the footwork and the deeper arsenal.

He is favored to outrag it today and give the Philippines its first boxing gold medal in the tournament—if he doesn't run short of oxygen firing killer punches.

Eagles seek Final Four slot vs Cards

ATOMIC SHOOTS for a semifinal berth in the Philippine Collegiate Champions League today were an Ateneo de Manila and University of the East collide in a Sweet 16 clash at the PEAC Flying V dome in San Juan.

The defending champion Eagles battle the Shaina Cardinals at 4 p.m. with the winner advancing opposite Cebu champion Inte-

LATEST TODAY
Defending champ Ateneo
2 p.m. — Ateneo vs. Inte
4 p.m. — Ateneo vs. Shaina

rior Felt at 6:30 p.m.

The Lions, unbeaten in their 20 games to the NCAA title season, meet the Warriors at 4 p.m.

The survivor of the Lions-Warriors duel will face La Salle in the quarterfinals.

San Beda will be rainbows coach Franklin Lim, who is in Guangzhou, China, with the Smart Gilas Philippine five in the Asian Games. Assistant coach Ed Cordero will call the shots for the Lions.

Arenas made the quarterfinals after beating Lyceum, 78-66, in the finale.

Drawing a big game from Mike Parala, Magnus subdued National U, 75-51, to advance to the last eight.

Ryan Buenafe, who missed the game against Lyceum because of academic commitments, will be back against the Cardinals.

"I'll be happy even if we win by one point," said Norminian Black. "Our players are not in the best shape."

Unlike in previous tournaments when they were seeded in the Sweet 16, the Warriors had to go through the round qualifying.

MCAA MVP Stefan Daniel is a doubtful starter for the Lions because of an injury.

The starting point guard spat left by Ravidez Bell guard Bonjie Hermoso will be a new guy between Jhie Villahermosa and Anjo Datuin.

Cedrik F. Tejao

HEMALCO'S Mac Cardona barrels his way through the double team of Powerade's Bonjay Estrella and Rob Reyes (left). ALEX BALTAZAR

Cardona rescues Meralco again

By Musong R. Castillo

MAC CARDONA and gamewinners are words associated with each other.

The semifinals octogenarian again came to Meralco's rescue last night at the B-Boys team a third straight game in the PBA Philippine Cup outfit on 86-85 decision of Powerade at the Araneta Coliseum in Cubao.

Cardona scored the B-Boys' final five points, the last four coming inside the final 20.3 seconds as Meralco, despite missing star Taulava because of national team commitments, rose to an even 2-0 and put the Tigers' campaign in peril with a fifth straight defeat.

The Tigers slumped to an 3-9 mark, now more than a game behind the eighth and final qualifying spot on the nine-round.

But the setback was partially aided by seven-of-glueless lapses in offsetting, none bigger than in the most crucial stretches of the endgame when a driving Gary David was fouled as lone native in one play. The non-call allowed Meralco to keep an 84-79 lead.

Earlier, the referees also looked the other way when Wesh Mocnapaud went down after taking a three-point attempt off Cardona.

B-Boys up to the task

But when it came down to winning the game, Cardona and the B-Boys went up to the task while Powerade couldn't even launch an attempt to try and forge overtime as time fled with the ball still in Mocnapaud's hands.

"I always felt that they are on the same level," coach Ryan Gregorio said when asked how he could compare James Yap, his erstwhile frontline at Purefoods, and Cardona, the franchise player he was given after taking the job at Meralco.

"There are four guys that you can put to the category of the league's best game-winners....Jed (Mercado of Hale or Miami), (Willie) Miller (of Barangay Ginebra), James and Mac," Gregorio said.

The former La Salle ace has literally won three of Meralco's five victories, the first during the inaugurals when he drained the match-all free throw in the dying seconds of a 73-73 win over Barangay Ginebra.

Last week, he scored seven straight points that wiped out an 87-91 deficit and sent the B-Boys to a 95-93 victory over the GE.

Cardona finished with 24 points and six assists, Gabby Espinas had 21 and Chris Ross let the numbers on top of 12 rebounds and 10 assists in a performance that had Gregorio praising him to high heaven.

"He badly needed that win, it's a reputation sake for us," Gregorio, whose team pulled away from the other squads in the lucrose ball of the standings. "We know coming into the game that we are still in the danger zone."

Mocnapaud and David each scored 18 to pace the Tigers, who are coming dangerously close to making playoffs for the first time in nine conferences, or since the 2006-edition of the tournament.

Box scores

MERALCO (86) — Cardona 24, Espinas 21, Ross 12, Yeng 6, Custodio 5, Belga 5, Baclao 4, Mercado 3, Lanete 3, Lanete 2, Ilagan 2, Asoro 0, Jacobs 0.

POWERADE (85) — Mocnapaud 18, David 18, Lanete 12, Lanete 8, Pinder 8, Ambrad 7, Reyes 5, Calimag 4, Gonzales 2, Baclao 2, Alfonso 0, Jacobs 0, Mercado 0.

Quarters: 21-19, 37-37, 57-62, 86-85

Bayron paces ICTSI-Canlubang Invt'l golf with 68

By Musong R. Castillo

CANLUBANG – Jay Bayron was one-putt on a calm day shooting a four-under par 68 yesterday to grab a one-stroke lead over three players in the P1-million ICTSI-Canlubang Invitational.

The Cebu big winner three months ago, Bayron gunned down three of his four birdies on the front nine, two of them coming back-to-back from No. 8 Category 2 Cebu Pacific Air target to pace former Philippine Open champion Carlos Cinco, Elmer Arbon and amateur Miguel Orbeta.

"I played a good round, but there were also times that I had to scramble for pars," said the 33-year-old Bayron.

Cinco, the veteran in Del Monte, enjoyed the par-3 14th hole and blew a chance to tie Bayron with a closing bogey on the rough 18th after missing the green and failing to recover par from the fore.

After hitting a 4-iron second shot from 220 yards to within inches on the 14th, Cinco sunk four under with a 16-foot par for birdie on the 15th only to drop a stroke on the 18th.

Arbon turned in a 34-35 card, while Orbeta had a 33-36.

Rookie pros Jong Lapuz and Aeries Antonio shot 70s while last favorite Jaric Pagsinsan settled for a 71 like Cookie LeO and Marvin Dumandan after a bad day on the greens.

Bayron trailed Pagsinsan by less than P90,000 for the leader of Meralco events in the classic organized by Philippine Golf Tournaments Inc.

The standings (Round 1)
68 — Jay Bayron 34-34
69 — C. Cinco 34-35, E. Arbon 35-34, M. Orbeta 36-33
70 — J. Lapuz 35-35, A. Antonio 35-35
71 — J. Pagsinsan 36-35, C. LeO 35-36, M. Dumandan 35-36
72 — J. Ramos 36-36, J. Ramos 36-36, J. Ramos 36-36,

Pacman ties Tyson PPV buys mark

WHAT DO Manny Pacquiao and Mike Tyson have in common?

Apart from being raging forces of destruction in the ring, they are big pay-per-view attractions, as well.

Early figures released by HBO Sports on Tuesday showed that Pacquiao's systematic demolition of Mexican Antonio Margarito for the World Boxing Council super welterweight crown on Nov. 13 at the Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, accounted for 1.35 million PPV buys and $64 million domestic revenue.

According to Dan Rafael of ESPN.com, Pacquiao now shares with Tyson the distinction of having at least one fight break the 1 million PPV buy-for-buy mark eight times.

In 2008, Pacquiao's eighth record smashup—that of Oscar De La Hoya, then known as the face of boxing, earned 1.25 million PPV buys.

The Filipino ring ace posted the second big payout for shooting greater values for 12th round stoppage of Miguel Cotto in 2009 generated 1.20-million-PPV buys.

HBO senior vice president Mark Taffet told Associated Press that Pacquiao's last five fights proved at least 1.1 million PPV buys, the first non-American to generate those kinds of numbers."

Prior to his demolition of Margarito, Pacquiao generated 700,000 buys to marvelous Ukrainian Jeshua Clottey for 12 rounds in March.

A huge turnout of 30,994, the third largest for an indoor boxing event in the United States, stooped to the Cowboys Stadium that time.

Though Pacquiao-Margarito's PPV figures fell short of the 1.4 million predicted by some quarters earlier, Taffet still considers it as an outstanding success.

"We're thrilled with the PPV performance," Taffet told ESPN.com. "With the breadth of interest from sports, entertainment and news media following Manny and the fight, boxing has remembers numerous times as we finish 2010 and head into a very exciting 2011."

Meanwhile promoter Bob Arum, of course, wants his superstar fighter to tangle with Floyd Mayweather Jr. next.

But since Mayweather seems noninterested, Arum is also looking at Shane Mosley and Juan Manuel Marquez as probable foes.

Lou Dibella, the promoter of WBC middleweight champion Sergio Martinez, also wants the Argentine star in the ring even if he's busy in the field at scarcethought of 155 pounds, Jose Arano's announcement.

Though Arum believes Pacquiao is going to beat Martinez, the 35-year-old boxing Hall of Famer said he doesn't want to risk the chance of Pacquiao getting hurt again.

Pacquiao admitted that Margarito's vicious body shot in the sixth round nearly took his breath away. Rey Joseve

THE LAKERS' Shannon Brown (left) passes around the Bulls' Omer Asik.

Lakers tame Bulls, stretch streak to five

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Lakers surged ahead in the fourth quarter to record a 98-91 win over the Chicago Bulls on Wednesday, stretching their NBA winning streak to five games.

Shannon Brown scored 21 points and Kobe Bryant added 20 for the Lakers, who trailed early in the fourth quarter before Derrick Rose finally downed down.

Rose scored 30 points, but was spectator three for the Bulls in the final period, all on free throws.

Los Angeles reserves Brown and Steve Blake led a 17-2 run that included 10 straight points, while the Bulls went more than 5½ minutes between field goals late and suffered their seventh straight loss to the Lakers.

Mavs 86, Pistons 84

In Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki had a season-high 42 points with 12 rebounds, scoring almost half Dallas' points in the win over Detroit.

The Mavericks were lethargic for much of the night and trailed by as many as 13 points in the third quarter. But they picked up the energy level late to secure their fifth straight win over the Pistons.

Nowitzki scored nine straight, capped by an 18-footer with 3:20 remaining for a 75-73 lead.

Jason Terry added 15 points for Dallas.

Tayshaun Prince scored a season-high 19 points and Rodney Stuckey also had 19 for the Pistons.

Nets 107, Hawks 101, OT

In Newark, New Jersey, Brook Lopez scored a season-high 32 points as New Jersey beat Atlanta to overtime and snapped a three-game losing skid.

Devin Harris added 23 of his 27 points in the second half for the Nets, who were playing their first home game in 18 days.

Jamal Crawford had 21 points for the Hawks, who have lost three straight.

In New York, the hosts won their fourth straight game, beating Charlotte, 110-107. AP

Complete results:

Indiana 103, Houston 98; New Jersey 101, Boston 93 (OT); Washington 130, Philadelphia 110 (OT); Memphis 102, Charlotte 92; Cleveland 104, Toronto 97; Atlanta 98, Chicago 91; (Rest)

Federer beats Murray in 2 sets at ATP finals

LONDON—Roger Federer dominated Andy Murray on Tuesday at the ATP World Tour Finals and avenged his last record to 2-0 at the season-ending event by winning 6-4, 6-2.

Sixteen hushed nonappetite on the court at the O2 Arena, losing only eight points on his serve in the match—three in the first set and five in the second.

"It's a bit strange," said the second-ranked Federer, who owns 63 victories to Murray's 43. "Andy's a good receiver, one of the best we have in the game."

Besides controlling play with his serve, salvaging 80 percent of the points when he landed his first serve, Federer also forced Murray into long rallies when he was receiving. Pulling him beside to his left and hitting them to his right with ease, the 16-time Grand Slam champion waited for his British opponent to make the errors or set up his winners.

"I don't think Andy played his best match for sure," Federer said of his opponent, who made 26 unforced errors.

Later Tuesday, Robin Soderling won to clinch David Ferrer in the other Group B match. Federer can advance to the semifinals depending on the latter result.

Federer has won the season-ending event for the top eight players in the world four times, and he can certainly add to that if he keeps playing like he did Tuesday.

Murray, however, dropped to 1-1 and will have to improve if he is to reach the semifinals. He will face Ferrer in his final match Thursday while Soderling takes on Federer.

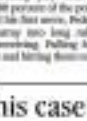
On Monday, top-ranked Rafael Nadal rallied to beat Andy Roddick 3-6, 7-6 (5), 6-4 and third-ranked Novak Djokovic defeated Tomas Berdych 6-2, 6-3.

Nadal will take on Djokovic on Wednesday, while Roddick and Berdych play in the early Group A match.

In doubles, Jurgen Melzer of Austria and Philipp Petzschner of Germany beat Lukas Dlouhy of the Czech Republic and Leander Paes of India 7-6 (3), 4-6, 10-8. Later, top-seeded Bob and Mike Bryan of the United States were to play Mariusz Fyrstenberg and Marcin Matkowski of Poland. AP

ROGER Federer. (Reuters)

Marquez pleads his case for a Pacquiao rematch



IN HUDDLE

Beth Cielo

LYDIE HUGER on a first-hour hotel during his visit to Manila last year, Mexican would losing champ Juan Manuel "Dinamita" Marquez bragged that his scrappy gave the hottest, spiciest chili peppers in the world.

UMA 17 spectators Chino Trinidad disputed this claim.

"Perhaps you've never tried our sting lahuyo," Chino said as he beckoned one of the waiters to bring some lahuyo to their tables so the guests can sample them.

"Try one," he offered Marquez, presenting him a saucer full of shrimp red and green chili peppers which Filipinos are indigenous to the Philippines.

Marquez, thinking that the lahuyo looked no hotter than a piece of jalapeño, popped one into his mouth and chewed on it. By the time he realized how hot it was, it was too late.

His face became red as a beet, his eyes and nostrils were so watery he had to beg for a glass of cold first juice, pronto.

* * *

The purpose of Marquez's visit to Manila was not very clear then. He told some scribes that he had come to challenge Manny Pacquiao to a rematch.

Since losing to the world's pound-for-pound king via a split decision in 2008, Marquez was said to be itching to have another shot at the man who is now known as the world's greatest boxer.

At any rate, Dinamita might have come here also to watch the Gerry Penalosa-Rammachak Sor Vorapin fight at the Araneta Coliseum. He was shown on television with the other celebrity guests during the event.

Marquez lost to Floyd "Money" Mayweather Jr. last year, but was able to bounce back nicely with a noteworthy performance over his next opponent, Juan Diaz.

To get closer to a third bout with Pacquiao, Marquez is counting on a sterling performance in his upcoming fight with Michael Katsidis for the WBA and WBO lightweight titles on Nov. 28.

Like Marquez, Katsidis was also in Manila last year to personally challenge Pacquiao to a fight. He was accompanied by his Australian countryman, Brendan Smith.

Katsidis will be coming off four straight victories since suffering back-to-back setbacks at the hands of Joel Casamayor and Juan Diaz.

"The Australian fighter of Greek descent rose through the ranks in the boxing world with his sword-pleasing, all-action brand of fighting," said Ted Atkins, marketing services manager of Solar TV, which will air the match, aptly-dubbed "Warriors: Marquez versus Katsidis," via satellite at 1 p.m. this Sunday.

"He is now boxing's premier blood-and-guts warrior, an honest fighter and is dedicated to the fans. And Gutti, a win over the aging Mexican warrior will undoubtedly place Katsidis' name on the short list of Pacquiao's possible opponents."

* * *

Frankly, I've never heard of Katsidis being mentioned as Pacquiao's next possible opponent, only the names of Mayweather Jr., Shane Mosley and Marquez.

In a television interview, the Pacman said a fight with Mayweather would be most ideal. But if negotiations do not materialize, "pwede rin ako si Mosley."

Mosley lost to Mayweather twenty ago.

Despite the close shave with Marquez, Pacquiao is not too keen on having a rematch with the Mexican warrior.

"Walang rumemind," Pacquiao had said.

But the fight between warriors Marquez and Katsidis is another story.

"Given the styles of both fighters, Marquez versus Katsidis has 'Fight of the Year' written all over it," says Dean De La Hoya, president of Golden Boy Promotions.

"Marquez looked better than ever in his last fight against Juan Diaz, and Katsidis is in top form coming off a big knockout win over Kevin Mitchell, so boxing fans will be in for a treat."

Patrombon scores twin Yucatan wins

JOSON PATROMBON overcame rally French Alexandre Reuse in three sets, 6-2, 5-7, 6-3, Tuesday and reunited the third round of the Grade 1 24th Yucatan World Cup 2010 in Merida, Mexico.

The 46th-seeded Bombonon dropped the second set when Reuse feigned injury then caught the Filipino flat-footed with lobbing serves to get back into the match.

But Patrombon dominated the game in the third set, taking a 2-0 lead that eventually pushed him to the next round against another French, Lucas Stoffle, who ousted Belgium's Yannis Bridogiannis, 6-2, 6-2.

Patrombon made it a back-to-back triumph after he partnered with New Zealand's Jaden Grimer to stun Colombia's Felipe Rojas and Pedro Pablo Ruiz, 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (10-8) and reach the second round.

Grimer pulled a stomach muscle, however, against the Colombians and will be a doubtful starter when the seventh seeds team go up against Slovakia's Patrik Niklas and Hong Kong's Justin Ye, who beat local partners Lucas Gomez and Ricky Mendiella, 7-5, 6-3.

Grimer, reported to coach Manny Tavora, had to serve underhand in the match because of the injury.

"I told Jaden to be ready at the net because he is going to get drilled with the serve so since Jaden's serve is just popping up for the kill. Luckily they survived this match but definitely tomorrow is a different story if Grimer can still play," reported Tavora in text-mail yesterday.

Patrombon meets Sandiego, 16-6, in the second set when Reuse claimed victory following an injury-and-delaying the match.

But the French player remained grim with three big serves and was running all over the court with no sign of injury in his leg.

"Reuse got annoyed, lost his focus and lost the set 7-5," Tavora said. Mario Anthony Reyes

Ho, 4 other Pinoys advance

By Marc Anthony Reyes

JASMIN HO and Jhonnes Jade Capadocia handled their respective foreign rivals to join three other locals in the second round of the Pilipina International juniors tennis championships week 1 yesterday at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

The 7th-seed Ho pulled off the biggest upset of the day when she dismissed Hungarian Elyanora, the fifth-seed Dora Bonnis, 6-4, 7-6 (7-4).

Capadocia booted out mysterious Shahid Zaire Amir, 6-0, 6-3. He advanced against Thailand's Inexpon Thongsing, who whipped Filipino Ben Daniel Olaniego, 6-4, 6-0. Capadocia, 16, must have steered need Qin Hiyu of China, who took a bye.

Already in the second round are top seed Anna Clarice Patrimonio, who took a bye, Khaled Bonin, who beat Japanese Yuko Kimura, 6-2, 6-2, and seventh seed Tanisha Nguyen, who downed Thai Vanyaa Wongsiwachat, 7-5, 7-6.

The last of the Filipino boys, Ildefonso Bonjoyo, was ushered out by Korean Yong Jae Ang, 6-1, 6-1, yesterday drawing out earlier in the first round were Andrew Andrea Cano, Hezlo Orendain, Alden Pe, Ramon Lopuzon, Jacob Lagman and Enrique Bever.

LI JIAN As of Chinese Taipei returns a shot to Muhammad Rushdan of Malaysia during their Kuala Lumpur Open match. (Reuters)

SPORTS

NO LEAP OF FAITH Marestella Torres soars on her second try. AFP

Officials blame injury for Marestella debacle

By Francis TJ. Ochoa

GUANGZHOU—The moment the completed the leap that seemed good enough for a podium finish, Marestella Torres looked back at the official measuring the final board.

"When the red flag went up, she broke down.

It was her fifth straight foul jump—something that had never happened in her career.

She only did she fathom the chance to bust on a field that practically hugged her to claim her crown, but she missed out on the bronze medal because she had no second successful leap to draw for the deferral.

"I wanted so hard for this event and I never fired a lot to get here, It's thinking of retiring after this," Torres tearfully told a radio reporters after the women's long jump final in the 16th Asian Games Tuesday.

"I was able to train abroad but when I got back [to the Philippines] couldn't train because of the [typhoon] Pedring."

Later that night, as she settled in the quiet of the Athletes Village, she ran into an old friend and poured her heart out.

"I don't know who brought the bad luck here," she told her friend. "I trained so hard for this and I really wanted to win a medal. It's just too much."

Then now the last she spoke of the incident.

Wednesday morning, journalists sought her out inside the Athletes' Village, but she was holed up inside her room. Her coach said she refused to talk to anyone. The reporters were later tipped that she finally emerged for a quick trip to the mess hall, but when they tried to reach her down there, she was nowhere to be found.

So the question remains: How could Torres, a veteran who had seen this event against basically the same field in the same venue in the prestigious Asian championships last year raise five consecutive leaps in the final?

Injury adjustments not made?

"After the third foul, I told her to adjust by half a foot backward and make up for it with the power in her jumps," said her coach, Joseph Sy. "Even did, and fouled again.

"They recorded the adjustment a little further for the fifth jump. Foul.

"Before the starts, I told her to move back again but this time, don't loosen the speed," Sy said. Foul.

Sy and athletics chief Go Teng Bok blamed an injury that Torres supposedly complained of after her first jump; a 6.49m effort that eventual gold medalist Ang Soon-ok of South Korea breathed only on her fourth attempt.

Apparently Torres twisted her ankle against the final board, which was two to three millimeters...in Sy's estimation...higher than the takeoff board.

"She probably felt the pain in her ankle and changed the rhythm of her stride," said Sy. "The whole time we were trying to adjust to the foul but the one thing I could not do was to help her adjust to the pain she was feeling."

"It's sad," said Go. "When she made her first jump, I was sure of the medal. She even jumped that good in her first jump."

Torres' next assurance to hope was the 6.53 she had to beat. Olga Rypakova of Kazakhstan, who was silver with a 6.50 and Uzbekistan's Yuliya Tarasova who took the Gebrselah with a second best leap of 6.42 to take bronze were the only two jumpers the Torres camp were watching out for, and they failed to top Any.

Unassuming to the Torres jumped 6.53a during opening training. She logged 6.66 during an open tournament in Germany. Her best official jump stands at 6.66 [Asian Elite Games].

In short, in the moment of glory that was four uniform years in the making, Marestella Torres had the gold within jump and a field at her mercy. All she needed was one good leap.

Instead, she fouled five times.

Why Asian Games action is not on TV

By Francis TJ. Ochoa

GUANGZHOU—Too much money too little basketball.

In the end, these two factors deprived 93 giant sports fans of their dose of the 16th Asian Games action.

National delegation officials said there was no one willing to shoulder the huge licensing fee needed to become an official broadcaster of the event, especially with little guarantee that there will be a heavy rise of basketball games for the viewers.

"There was no official quote but it really was beyond anybody's budget," said delegation chief of mission Joey Romasanta on Tuesday.

The licensing fee for the Games reportedly cost $16 million. The Guangzhou Asian Games Organizing Committee (Gagoc) deals directly with potential broadcast partners through the Asian Broadcasting Union, of which NBN-4 is a member.

The government-owned station was assigned initial rights for the coverage and the Philippine Olympic Committee tried to help pool resources by hooking up NBN with ABS-CBN, GMA and Solar Sports.

But the Gagoc would only guarantee the showing of basketball games from the quarterfinals onward.

"There was no assurance that our basketball team would make the quarterfinals and there was no assurance that it is del quality, it would go far enough to allow the broadcasters to recoup the fee they will pay for the rights," Romasanta said.

COSTLY SHOW The Philippines-Qatar pre-quarterfinal game. AFP

Diver Fabriga still hurting from Asiad bus accident

By Francis TJ. Ochoa

GUANGZHOU—The inquiry into the case of the divers who still competed despite the injuries they sustained in a vehicular accident here continued Wednesday, with the medical team finally releasing the results of tests done on Jessel Fabriga.

A magnetic resonance imaging test showed Fabriga suffered neck sprains and an inflammation on his left shoulder joint.

Filipino divers were being housed in the first Aquatics Center, site of the Asian Games diving competition, on Monday when their vehicle plowed into a car.

"He was interested as a result of the accident and he felt several pains away from where he originally was. That could have caused the trauma," said Dr. Alejandro Pineda, head of the three-man medical team of Team Philippines.

Chief of mission Joey Romasanta, meanwhile, said he awaited the arrival of coach Lawrence Borromeo on the incident.

Romasanta wants to know why Bureau main Fabriga and teammate Adrian Anik compete in the synchronized 10-meter platform event instead of taking them to the hospital for a thorough checkup.

Sources revealed that Bureau made the decision in the absence of a team manager.

Aquatics accredited a team manager for diving, but sources said the person is working as a technical official for the Games.

The Bureau sought Aquatics chief Mark Joseph at the Athletes' Village, where delegation officials are housed, but the secretariat said he was billeted in a city hotel.

Joseph learned unaware of the accident, however, saying the divers' problem could've been a result of an old injury acting up.

Pineda said Fabriga felt "pain in his right upper extremity right after the accident" but felt okay enough to go through with the dive. After his two attempts, Fabriga felt "pain in the upper left extremity" this time, prompting the withdrawal.

The divers faced many difficulties leading up to the Asian Games. They endured by a frigid pool for less than three weeks before the Asiad and sometimes relied on blind maneuvers for their dismay needs.

In a statement sent to media offices Tuesday, the Philippines Aquatics Sports Association did not confirm or deny the divers' revelations.

Joseph earlier blamed Manuel Bonoan Philippine Sports Commission chair Harry Angping for the divers' lack of preparation.

Joseph said Chito halted Filipino from training in the mainland and to coaches from flying to the Philippines since 2009 because Angping refused to pay the PSC's dues to the Rizal Training Center for the divers' pool during Olympians training sessions.

But Angping said there was no formal contract between the PSC and the Chinese Swimming Association over the said dues or bugle with.

He said Joseph never submitted any financial statement on the supposed contract with the Chinese during the 10 months that he was head of the PSC.

As a result, Angping said the PSC finance department could not make any favorable recommendation for the payment of the training dues because the Commission on Audit would definitely disallow it.

When Angping took over as the PSC, the aquatics association lost its financial assistance from the Philippine Investment and Gaming Corp. after the PSC questioned the propriety and legal basis of the gaming corporation's direct contributions to Pasa.

Philippine Sked

IN THIS ISSUE
■ PH, China agree on new air rights pact /B8
■ San Miguel eyes full ownership of Indophil /B10

Editor Raul G. Marcelo ● Assistant Editor Corrie S. Mariano
BUSINESS

PH to get $1-B 'environment protection' loans

ADB spearheads fund-raising for climate change projects

By Michelle V. Rerra

THE PHILIPPINES, one of the few countries identified as facing the highest risk of natural disasters, will get $1 billion worth of loans over the medium term to fund programs aimed at improving the country's ability to cope with climate change.

The loans will be provided by the Asian Development Bank and rich countries that have pledged financial support for developing economies like the Philippines to implement environmental protection initiatives.

The first tranche of the loan, worth $400 million, will be provided by the ADB and will be part of its three-year country assistance strategy (CAS) for the Philippines starting 2011, according to David McCauley, principal climate change specialist at the ADB.

While environment-related projects and programs under the CAS are still being firmed up, McCauley said the $400 million is expected to finance initiatives that will promote the use of noble energy, one way to reduce greenhouse emissions that have been causing climate change.

Aside from extending loans from its own fund, the ADB is also facilitating the extension of climate change-related credits from rich countries to developing nations.

McCauley said developed countries were contributing to an overall fund intended to finance initiatives that would help developing and least developed nations cope with climate change.

Industrialized economies are tasked with investing in environmental protection programs given that they contribute most to the world's overall greenhouse gas emissions. On the other hand, developing and least developed countries have a smaller share in total emissions, but are more prone to the ill effects of climate change.

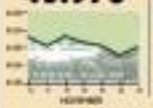
In the case of the Philippines, it is one of the few countries

>> BUSINESS B2

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
Nov. 24, 2010
43.970

STOCK MARKET
Nov. 24, 2010
22.81



Stocks continue to weaken

LOCAL stocks lost ground for the third consecutive session as fresh tension on the Korean peninsula spooked global markets. The main index Philippine STOCK /B10

SMART MONEY introduces another innovative mobile-to-mobile cash transfer.
PASAPERA from SMART
Para mag PASA PERA mula sa SMART Menu/ Pilihin ang SMART Money at ang Transfer.
Click Others and input mobile/card number.
Madali ● Mapagkakatiwalaan ● Maraming mapapadalhan
Send to over 45 million SMART and Talk 'N Text mobile numbers anywhere.
SMART

We're keeping the RED TAG on until Nov. 30!
TOYOTA
RED TAG
Super Savings
EXTENDED!
Choose from any of these exciting packages!
PAY LOW
as low as 10% DP
Vios P 65,000*
Innova P 79,300*
Fortuner P 134,900*
PAY LIGHT
Low monthly as to 12 months
Vios P 6,500*
Innova P 7,700*
Fortuner P 13,500*
PAY CASH
Save as much as
Fortuner P 80,000
Innova P 40,000
Vios P 40,000
PAY LATER
1st monthly installment after 90 days
Catch Toyota's best deals now. Don't miss it this time!
Inquire at your nearest Toyota dealer now!
www.toyota.com.ph
TOYOTA
moving forward

Property firm seeks P13-B reimbursement from gov't

Listed Cyber Bay files claim for aborted Manila Bay project

By Doris C. Dumlao

REAL ESTATE developer Cyber Bay Corp. is seeking the reimbursement of as much as P13 billion worth of claims from the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) related to an aborted 750-hectare development project along Manila Bay.

During the company's stockholders' meeting yesterday, shareholders also sealed agreements with two creditor—Philippine National Bank and Bangkok Bank (assigned to Philstca Commercials Holdings Inc.)—involving the conversion of Cyberbay debts and interest expiry.

By striking a compromise with these creditors, Cyber Bay chair Ramon S. Ang said the company has avoided the risk of having its assets foreclosed.

PNB and Bangkok Bank, which accounted for bulk of about P3 billion in bank loans and accounts payable in Cyberbay's books, will acquire voting preferred shares in the company.

Among others, shareholders approved an amendment to company bylaws that will pave the way for the reclassification of 700 million non-voting preferred shares to voting preferred shares and the change in the par value of the shares from P1 to P0.10 each.

On the deal with creditors, shareholders approved the following:

- Conversion of debt to One Hundred Rajanee Holdings Inc. (as the assignee of the loan obtained from PNB) of approximately P3.01 billion through the issuance of 1.51 billion voting redeemable preferred shares;
- Assumption of the liability of Central Bay Reclamation and Development Corp. of approximately P2.58 billion to Bangkok Bank; and
- Conversion of the Bangkok Bank loan, which has since been assigned to Primera Commercials Holdings Inc., through the issuance of 4.66 billion voting redeemable preferred shares, which shall be considered as full settlement of the pending collection case against Central Bay.

Ang, who invested in Cyber Bay in his private capacity, said Cyberbay would first have to recover some of its claims with PRA before filing new businesses.

"If we get the money that I will recommend that we get into businesses with immediate cash flows," Ang said, noting that there were a lot of opportunities for CyberBay.

The P13 billion reimbursement sought by Cyberbay includes the initial payment of all costs, losses, liabilities and expenses related to the 750-hectare reclamation and urban township development. This has ballooned since 2007 when Cyber Bay first filed its claim for reimbursement with the PRA amounting to P10.29 billion, due in part of money over the years.

Due to questions of ownership, the Supreme Court prohibited Cyberbay subsidiary Central Bay Reclamation and Development Corp. (Central Bay) from entering the land where the project was supposed to be built. As such, Cyberbay filed for reimbursement of its initial spending.

OPEN AUCTION OF PRIME PROPERTIES
NOVEMBER 27, 2018 | CROWN REGENCY HOTEL & TOWERS, CEBU CITY
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 10:00AM | AUCTION PROPER STARTS AT 11:00AM

* NOW WITH REVISED AUCTION RULES & GUIDELINES *
* SELLER TO SETTLE PROPERTY RELATED EXPENSES OWING AS AT AUCTION DATE *

STARPROPERTIES invites all interested parties to bid the following properties on "AS-IS-WHERE-IS" basis:

ASSET CODE	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	LR/TCT/OCT No. (Lot/Blk/Area)	MIN. BID PRICE
	CEBU			
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Auction Day: November 27, 2018, 11:00 AM, Crown Regency Hotel & Towers, Tower 1, Cardinal Theatre, Osmeña Boulevard, Sto. Niño, Cebu City

Bid Bond: A bank manager's/cashier's check in the name of the property shall be surrendered before the auction proper. A bid bond equivalent to 10% of the minimum bid price

Gov't subsidies climbed to ₱15.96B in 10 months

10% increase traced to ₱7.68B in funds given to NFA

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE GOVERNMENT gave out a total of ₱15.96 billion in subsidies to state-owned and -controlled corporations and financial institutions in the 10 months to October as Malacañang fanned up "judicious" spending.

Documents from the Bureau of the Treasury showed that the amount given out in the 10-month period showed an increase of 9.9 percent from the ₱14.52 billion disbursed in the same period of 2009.

Bulk of the subsidies went to financing, crops, livelihood and telecommunications programs.

The National Food Authority again became the top recipient, getting ₱7.68 billion or almost half of total subsidies for the period.

Also among the top five recipients were the National Housing Authority with ₱3.44 billion; National Livelihood Development Corp., ₱1.3 billion; National Telecommunications Commission, ₱1.02 billion, and Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), ₱459 million.

In October alone, the flow of subsidies from the national government jumped 220 percent to ₱6.28 billion from the ₱1.96 billion given out in the same month last year.

The NFA accounted for 69 percent of the month's total, getting ₱5.6 billion or the biggest single disbursement of subsidy for any agency in any month so far this year.

Budget Secretary Florencio B. Abad said spending for subsidies on GOCCs in October was higher than the program by ₱2.7 billion or 20.1 percent due to the release of a big amount earmarked for the NFA for the full year.

In 2010, Malacañang is committed to shell out ₱6 billion in subsidy for NFA's rice price stabilization and food security programs.

The Aquino administration is now reviewing such mandate for the NFA, particularly after the agency went under fire as the effectiveness of its rice importation and subsidy program was put into question.

Abad also said that the government was improving the quality of its expenses in line with the Aquino administration's mantra of "judicious spending."

Other recipients in October were the Tourism Promotions Board, ₱485 billion; Philippine Rice Research Institute, ₱339 million; PCA, ₱79 million; National Kidney and Transplant Institute, ₱31 million, and National Tobacco Administration, ₱23 million.

Itochu eyes 'clean' energy projects in PH

By Abigail L. Ho

FOLLOWING its commitment to invest $120 million in an ethanol refinery in the country, corporate firm Itochu Corp. is now looking at possible investments in power-generation projects using renewable energy.

"We have started evaluation for other renewable energy projects like wind, hydro and solar, but we are only in the beginning stages. Some of the prospects we are looking at already have feasibility studies," Itochu general manager Renato Ebanisa said in a briefing.

He declined to disclose the sites of the projects. However, he said the issuance of feed-in-tariff (FIT) rates would determine which specific projects the firm would eventually undertake.

"The FIT is very important and we are waiting for it before we decide which project to [undertake]," he said.

The FIT system provides renewable energy developers with an assurance of fixed cash flow as electricity end users will be charged fixed amounts to cover the production of energy from renewable sources. With this in place, utilities can spread the cost of clean power among consumers.

While waiting for the FIT rates to be issued, Itochu would be concentrating on the establishment of its $120-million ethanol refinery and biomass power facility in San Mariano, Isabela.

The facility to be put up by Green Future Innovations Inc., become a fully registered Philippine Economic Zone Authority project last September. Green Future is owned by Japanese firms Itochu and JGC Corp., Taiwanese company TCCI and Philippine flour-based and Energy Investments Corp.

The plant will produce 54 million liters of ethanol and raw bagasse and sugarcane residues to produce 19 megawatts (MW) of electricity. 13 MW of which will be sold to the grid. It is targeted to go into service by 2012.

In an earlier statement, Itochu and JGC said they were constantly on the lookout for possible business for large-scale bioethanol and power-generation projects in Asia. The Philippines is an attractive location for the Japanese firms due to the presence of the Biofuels Law and the Renewable Energy Law.

Once in operation, the Green Future project is seen providing employment to 15,000 people on the farm side alone. Another 500 people will be needed at the plant itself.

The plant will become the biggest domestic producer of ethanol at 54 million liters, followed by San Carlos Bioenergy Inc. with 35 million liters and Bioeel Bioenergy Inc. with 30 million liters.

PH to get $1-B . . .

From page B1

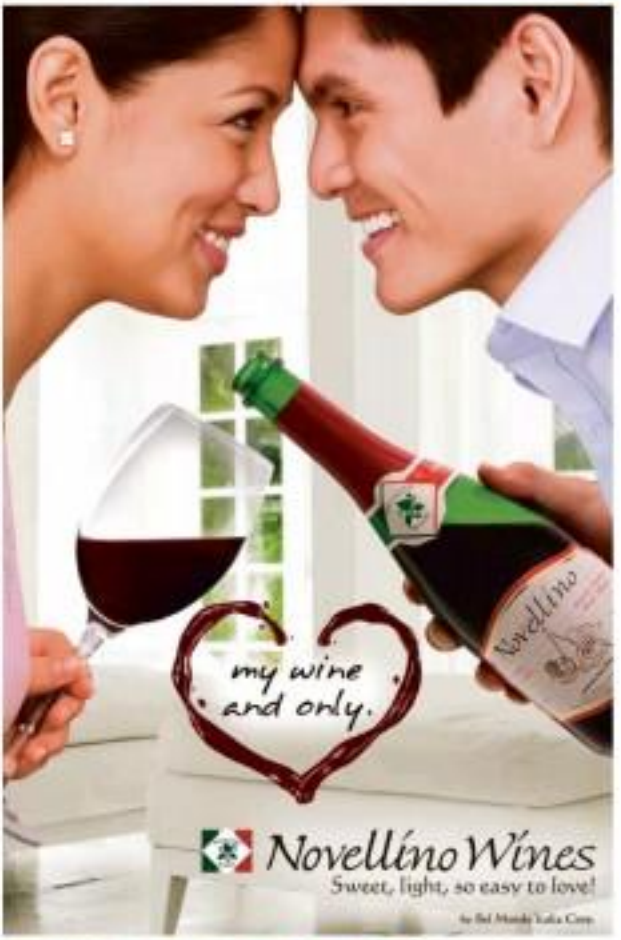
identified to face the highest risk of natural disasters resulting from climate change due to its location and archipelagic structure despite accounting for only 0.27 percent of the world's total greenhouse emissions.

High income countries led by the United States account for about 60 percent of the world's total greenhouse emissions, while lower income nations contribute 36 percent.

Climate change risk faced by the Philippines was manifested toward the end of 2009 when it was battered with back-to-back calamities, Tropical Storm "Ondoy" that hit the capital and Typhoon "Pepeng" that struck northern provinces.

McCauley said rich countries were expected to further discuss their financial contributions to global efforts to address climate change during a summit to be held in Cancun, Mexico, from Nov. 29 to Dec. 10.

Policymakers from various countries will meet for the climate change conference to firm up strategies to address the problem.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region III, Zambales-Bataan
DIVISION OF ZAMBALES-DEL SUR
Pagadian City

DepED

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Department of Education, Division of Zambales-del Sur, Pagadian City, through its duly constituted Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites all prospective bidders to apply for eligibility and if found suitable to bid for the:

NAME OF PROJECT : Supply and Delivery of Elementary and Secondary Arts Chairs, Teacher's Table and Chairs, Science Laboratory Table and Stools and Library Table and Stools

ABC & FUNDING SOURCE : Fund/Body Note to be the Government of the Philippines (*% 2010 GAA (75% Allocation of 2010 School Furniture Procurement Program.)

CONTRACT DURATION : One Hundred Twenty (120) Calendar Days

DELIVERY SITES : Door-to-Door Delivery to various recipient schools (See Schedule of Requirements of this Bidding Documents)

Unit	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	ABC (Php)
a	Elementary Arm Chair (Grade 1 to 3 and Above)	1,000	P 1,000,000.00
b	Secondary Arm Chair (All Sizes)	1,000	1,000,000.00
c	Teachers' Table and Chair (All Sizes)	100	100,000.00
d	Library Table and Stool (Grade 3 Above)	100	100,000.00
e	Science Laboratory Table All Sizes (Grade 3 Above)	100	1,000,000.00
	TOTAL		P 3,300,000.00

The Schedule of BAC activities is as follows:

BAC Activities	Date and Time	Venue
1. Advertisement/Posting of ITB	Nov. 14, 2010 – Dec. 13, 2010	BAC Secretariat Office, Deped, Division of Zambales-del Sur
2. Issuance & Availability of Bidding Documents	Nov. 24 – December 13, 2010	BAC Secretariat Office, Deped, Division of Zambales-del Sur
3. Pre-Bid Conference	December 2, 2010 – 10:00 AM	Division Office Conference Room
4. Receipt and Opening of Bids	September 14, 2010 – 10:00 AM	Division Office Conference Room

The bidding documents shall be available at the BAC Secretariat Office, Deped, Division of Zambales-del Sur, Pagadian City, starting November 14, 2010 to December 13, 2010 upon SUBMISSION OF LETTER OF INTENT and payment of non-refundable amount of P1,000.00 – PHILIPPINE PESO (Php 1,000.00).

The bidders are required to submit all samples of school furniture during the Opening of Bids.

Bidding shall be conducted in accordance with procedures under the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the GOP Procurement Reform Act. Information is also available on Deped, Division of Zambales-del Sur, Pagadian City or call Telephone/Cell No. (062) 215-0811.

The Department of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder/bidders.

(Sgd.) CARMEN B. GONZALVO
Asst. Schools Division Superintendent
BAC Chairperson

DTM – November 23, 2010

AHS Class '67 Reunion

THE ARELLANO High School Class '67 will have their annual homecoming and Christmas party on Dec. 11, from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Mayflower Grand Opens Hotel at Diamond, Ave. 20., Manila. For further details, please contact Yvonne S. Valdez at 09195208801; Bo Mendiola at 09166811143; Jun Dela Merced at 09162162763 and Lorraine Gozon.

Rizal High Batch '90 Reunion

THE RIZAL HIGH School class of 1990 — Rizalian Batch 1990 Extension Inc. will be having their 20th Year Reunion and Christmas Party on Dec. 18, Saturday 8pm at Atty. Cadiz's Residence, Riverside Village, Bridge Avenue, Concepcion, Pasig City (Brgy. Rosario), near Ever Gotesco Crossings Mall. For more information, you may visit our Facebook account face-book.com/rizal1990 and our Yahoo egroups account at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rizalhs90. You can also text the following officers: Ferdie Blaig (no. 09167215050; 09205129805), Edrey Cruz (09189041488), Rissa Ilustre (09209432280)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that as of January 2010, Mr. Leandro L. Gako is no longer connected with Landco Pacific Corporation. Therefore, all transactions entered to and by Mr. Gako after January 2010 in behalf of Landco Pacific Corporation will no longer be honored.

DTM – November 23, 2010

EDMUND FIGUERO (R., blk. CHDM10) environmental hydrologist and project manager, presents to the media steps and options in mitigating the environmental cleanup and remediation plans for Barangay Baeghal in Mabalacat City. **CHDM10** is an international decontamination and environmental expert contracted by First Philippine Industrial Corp. Looking on at right is Kan Chee Min, regional program manager, who joined Figuero in the press briefing.

Advertise in Job Market Libre

Inquire at 897-0883 loc. 524

Get more exposure for your ad

get hired www.jobmarketonline.com

OBITUARIES

Grief is a Journey...
We move from seeing the person
by sight to seeing them in memories.
In time, our memories become our
most precious possession... - Doug Manning

In loving Memory on the
1st Death Anniversary
of his birth to eternal life on November 25, 2009

ATTY. ARMANDO M. MARCELO

His wife Dr. Princesita F. Marcelo; children Joselito, Armand Raymond, Armand Vincent and Jennifer, daughter-in-law Herlyn Gallinda, and grandchildren Diego and Maia request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Holy Masses will be offered at the following churches:

Chapel of the Missionary Cenacle of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus, ... 6:00AM
Tayabas Quezon
Odiaces Chapel, *Antipas, Iloilo* 9:00AM
St. Alexander Roman Catholic Church, *Fernhill, Ozamiz* 7:00AM
Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, *Guadalupe, Makati City* ..... 6:00AM, 12:00NN & 6:30PM
Shrine of the Sacred Heart, *Dao San Antonio Village, Makati* 7:00AM
St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, *Bel-Air, Makati City* 7:30AM, 12:15PM
Sanctuario de San Antonio Parish, *Forbes Park, Makati City* ..... 7:00AM & 12:15PM
Lexington Garden Village Chapel, *Ellice Road, San Joaquin, Pasig City* ..... 6:00 PM

WELFRED BAGUNU CAVILES

(July 28, 1944 – November 23, 2010)

Found away in the grace of our Lord on November 23, 2010 at the age of 66.

His bereaved mother Nandina B. Caviles; sisters Rebecca S. Nat, Gamela S. Jose; Brothers Oscar B. Mirchan, Cesar, Danny S. Ilusa request the readers to join them in praying for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at La Funeraria Bel-Air.
Cremation will be on November 25, 2010 at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Crematory chapel.
Interment follows after the Cremation.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
- Copy of Death Certificate;
- Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • BIRTH ANNIVERSARY • WEDDING • TRIBUTE

More Classifieds on page

Supreme Court of the Philippines A7

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

SALCEDA, SUITE
Expressway Lot 3 (1/2 lot)
...

SUBIC CONDO
BLUE RESIDENCES
at SUBIC BAY
...

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

For Lease or Sale
...

For Lease or Sale
...

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

...

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

...

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

...

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

...

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

...

Provincial Government of Bukidnon

INVITATION TO BID

...

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FAMILY HEALTH CARDS

...

NOTICE AND WARNING

...

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

MANILA NSW

...

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region
...

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATIONS FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMITS (AEP'S)

...

Name and address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National/ Citizenship	Position
UNION PETTER FISHING & TRADING CORP.	Hsieh Liang	General Manager
FLOOR FINISH - FLOOR LEVEL (FF-FL), INC.	Sam Ashton Fraser	Concrete Superintendent
HORST BEERMANNENBERT PAUL G. CORP.	Gunter Falk Matthes	Technical Engineer
TOP EXPRESS INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED BRANCH OFFICE	Ning Tian	Technical Support Specialist
TOP EXPRESS INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED BRANCH OFFICE	Shengjiang Zhou	Technical Support Specialist
TOP EXPRESS INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED BRANCH OFFICE	Shan Li	Technical Support Specialist
SUPER MAX BOSS INTERNATIONAL, INC.	Jin Seok Cho	General Manager
SUPER MAX BOSS INTERNATIONAL, INC.	Yoonsup Lee	Manager
SUPER MAX BOSS INTERNATIONAL, INC.	Sungchul Cho	Consultant
GASLEGGY CAPITAL LIMITED	Y Hsieh Trina	Administrative Employee Customer Service Officer
IT INFORMATIONAL (PHILIPPINES), INC.	Masaru Goto	Architect Manager
IRAN CHINA ENERGY CORP.	Chen-Hsi Yang	Technical Consultant
BAYCOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	Jie Feng	Chinese Customer Support Associate
BAYCOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	Po-Yao Chen	Chinese Customer Support Associate
BAYCOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	Yanna Tilin	Chinese Customer Support Associate
BAYCOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	Yu Ding	Chinese Customer Support Associate
BAYCOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	Hikkaw Ruammit	Thai Customer Support Associate
BAYCOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	Liping He	Chinese Customer Support Associate
KOMCENTEC, INC.	Steven Kosasih	IT Consultant
KOMCENTEC, INC.	Kuan Sin Chung	Finance Consultant
KOMCENTEC, INC.	Alexander Ahmad	Technical Director
SMARTMATIC PHILIPPINES INC.	Cesar Humberto Flores Zavaleta	Chairman
ALTA RESOURCES (PHILIPPINES) CORPORATION	Steven David Schneider	Trainer
SMARTMATIC PHILIPPINES INC.	Rubens Penteado Filipini Ramires	Global Services Manager
TELETECH CUSTOMER CARE MANAGEMENT PHILIPPINES, INC.	Marlen Kiyoko	Technical Support Representative - Japanese Account

If you have any information/objection to the above-mentioned applications, please communicate with the Regional Director.

...
Regional Director

INVITATION TO BID

...

ZAMBOANGA CITY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (ZAMCELCO)

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT

...

KIMBELLS WINS SECOND SET OF INTERNATIONAL AWARDS THIS YEAR

...

ROLEX LADIES' EDITION

We're looking for used tanker vessels with avg. net load of 1,200 mtons.
Call/Fax Vessel Particulars to:
(02) 330-8103

CONGRATULATIONS
TO
ALLIANCE GLOBAL GROUP
AND
GENTING GROUP
ON THE CELEBRATION
OF

Resorts World MANILA

GRAND FIESTA MANILA 2010

November 25 - 28, 2010

AND

GENTING 45th Anniversary

Upcoming Events

ROCK WITH THE BEST

PINOY BANDS

RWMANILA CONCERT GROUNDS
THURSDAY 8:30 - 10:30PM

NOVEMBER 25

JAM WITH

ARNEL PINEDA

AND ANIMO BAND

RWMANILA CONCERT GROUNDS
FRIDAY 8:30 - 11PM

NOVEMBER 26

GROOVE WITH
THE EARTH, WIND AND FIRE EXPERIENCE
FEATURING
THE AL MCKAY ALLSTARS

RWMANILA CONCERT GROUNDS
SATURDAY 9:30 - 11:30PM

NOVEMBER 27

Visit rwmanila.com for details

From your partners:

SOCIETE GENERALE

AVDI
Audio Visual Driver Int'l Phils.

TECHNOLUX
SMALLWARES
ONE STOP SHOP

Perception Gaming
Powered by JUMBO TECHNOLOGY
Bingo/Casino Machines & System Supplier!

BUSINESS

Publication Info | Website: www.inquirer.net/business | E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph | Send your feedback: inquirer.net/specialpages/sendfeedback

Gov't plans to borrow on behalf of state firms

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE GOVERNMENT is looking at issuing bonds whose proceeds will be re-lent to government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs) instead of backing those firms' independent bond floats with sovereign guarantees.

According to Finance Secretary Cesar V. Purisima, this new tack is meant to consolidate the government's debt management efforts, as well as help the various groups involved in debt management deepen their skills in this field.

He said it may be a better option for the government itself to avail of loans directly for the use of state firms that it deems qualified to take out loans, considering these firms will not be able to borrow without a state guarantee anyway.

Palace seeks 'least cost' option

PURISIMA

"GOCCs and the national government, through the Department of Finance, have separate management liability groups," Purisima said. "But these are both shallow."

The finance chief said that, for example, "it is more advantageous to make the borrowing through the national government and lend it to" the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (PSALM).

Last October, PSALM president Emmanuel H. Ledesma Jr. said the company hopes to raise as much as $2 billion in early 2011 through the issuance of peso-denominated bonds.

Ledesma said proceeds from the fund-raising will be used to service Napocor's 2011 obligations amounting to $1.2 billion.

In 2011, $200 million worth of previously issued bonds would mature on March while $900 million worth of floating-rate notes are due in August.

"Whether it is a GOCC or the national government that borrows, at the end of the day, the burden will rest on the national government," Purisima said.

He said the government is currently studying the difference between the costs that borrowing for GOCCs would entail if either the government or a state firm would undertake the bond exercise.

"Everything will depend on what the gap of the cost is," Purisima said. "Since it is the government that will shoulder the cost of borrowing regardless of which entity goes to the debt market, we will go for the option with the lower cost."

Digitel expanding to Visayas and Mindanao areas

By Paolo S. Montecillo

PHILCOMWIRED-LEC (PHILTEL) Telecommunications Philippines Inc., operator of mobile brand Sun Cellular, is expanding its landline phone service to Visayas and Mindanao to go head-to-head with its bigger rivals.

In a statement, Digitel said its wireless landline service SunTel is moving its sights on expanding beyond Luzon to provide reliable and affordable unlimited landline service to the area.

Once completed, the Vis-Min transmission network will be linked to Digitel's Luzon transmission facility to create a nationwide communication network.

SunTel is currently present in Metro Manila and the whole Luzon.

"We are positive we could duplicate the success we have in Luzon to the provinces down south," Digitel's spokesperson William Panelo was said. "We are working on launching SunTel Wireless Landline Service in Vis-Min by the first quarter of 2011," he said.

"We want those in Visayas and Mindanao to experience the convenience of unlimited landline service that we have been providing our subscribers in Metro Manila, and Luzon," he added.

Panelo also said SunTel Wireless Landline will work anywhere there is Sun Cellular coverage.

"We will be using Sun Cellular's nearly 7,000 cell sites all over the country to provide wireless landline services. What we are working on now is to establishing local interconnection with other telecom companies with presence in Visayas and Mindanao to ensure seamless and practical communication services for our subscribers," he added.

Without this interconnection, calls made between subscribers of different networks will be charged long-distance rates.

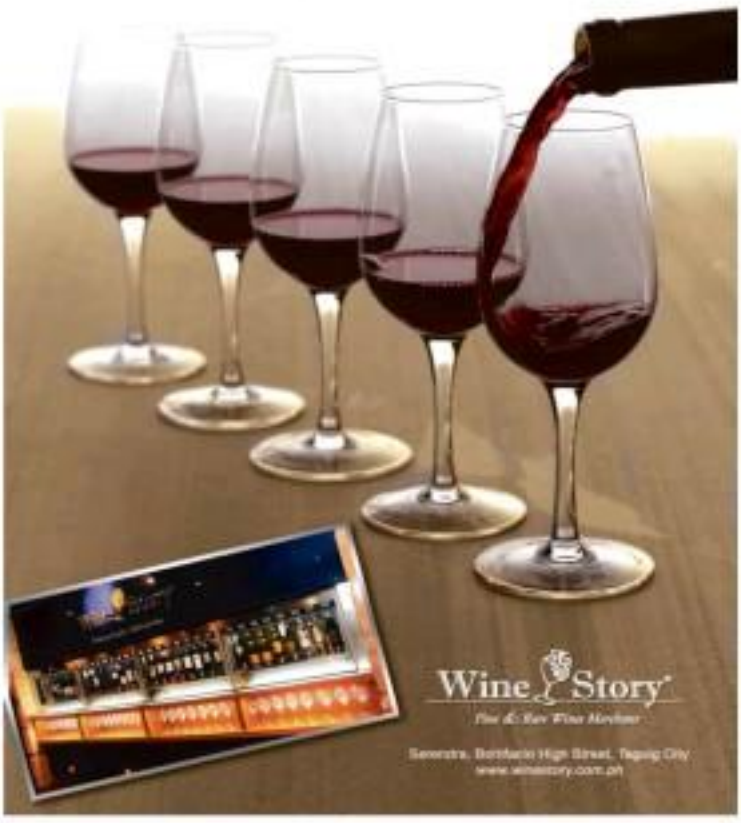
The company said it had already established an interconnection agreement with Globe Telecom in Cebu. It is now plans to start the same process in Iloilo, Bacolod, Davao and other parts of Mindanao. Digitel is also negotiating with PLDT for interconnection in the said areas.

SunTel Wireless Landline was launched in Luzon in 2008 and Metro Manila in 2009 to offers subscribers wireless mobility to address their specific areas or premises at the affordable cost of a landline.

The planned expansion of Digitel's wireless landline service to Visayas and Mindanao comes amid a shift in the telecommunications industry's landscape.

In recent months, telecommunications giants like the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. and Globe Telecom Inc. have shifted their focus away from the traditional mobile voice service segment where revenue growth has been plateauing, and into new areas like broadband data services.

NOW POURING
AT SERENDRA



THE GSIS-DepEd SERVICE RECORDS UPDATING PROJECT

THE SERVICE RECORDS PROBLEM

For years, the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and the Department of Education (DepEd) have faced the problem of discrepancies in the GSIS records of DepEd teaching and non-teaching personnel.

These discrepancies resulted in inaccuracies in the Service Records of DepEd personnel in the GSIS database. The inaccuracies are one of the main causes of complaints whenever they transact with the GSIS, because Service Records are the bases of GSIS in providing benefits and loan privileges. Service Records are also the GSIS' bases for billing of premiums and other obligations due the GSIS.

THE SOLUTION

To solve this problem, the GSIS and the DepEd have joined hands and decided to pool their resources to complete the massive updating of the Service Records of DepEd personnel, pursuant to the directive of the President during his First 100 Days to resolve the various concerns of teachers.

This is the spirit behind the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the new GSIS President and General Manager Robert G. Vergara and Education Secretary Bro. Armin A. Luistro on 04 October 2010, a day before the celebration of the World Teachers' Day.

Under the MOU, the DepEd undertakes to complete the submission of all Service Records of its teaching and non-teaching personnel to the GSIS on or before 15 December 2010. The GSIS, in turn, commits to validate promptly the Service Records duly submitted by the DepEd and upload the same to its database. Accordingly, the correct Service Records will now become GSIS' bases in processing DepEd personnel's transactions with the GSIS.

For updates about this project, visit www.gsis.gov.ph and www.deped.gov.ph

PH, China agree on new air rights pact

More flights for business, tourism seen

By Paolo G. Montecillo

FLIGHTS between the Philippines and China are set to increase substantially following the signing of a new air rights deal between the governments of both countries.

The agreement is expected to help the Philippines take advantage of opportunities for trade and tourism from China, which is set to become the world's largest economy in the next few years.

Under the new deal, the number of allowed passengers flying from Manila to mainland China, and vice versa, was increased to 13,000 per week from the previous 10,000 allowed under the previous six-year-old deal.

"We initially asked but the Chinese were only willing to give us an additional 3,500 at this point," said Carmelo Arcilla, executive director of the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) and head of the Philippine air panel.

But an added provision also gave the Philippines an additional number of seats between points outside the main Manila hubs to points outside China's own major points of Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai.

"This gives the Philippine government the opportunity to divert increasing traffic to secondary points in the country, particularly, the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport in Clark Freeport, Pampanga.

The former US military base, which has enough runway and terminal space for expansion to handle heavier air traffic growth, is being primed as an alternative to the three congested Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) terminals in Manila.

Arcilla said the Philippine government sought to amend its older deal with the Chinese to meet the fast-growing demand for air travel between the two countries.

"China offers a huge potential because of the size of its population and because of the fact that it is emerging to become the biggest economy in the world," he said in a previous interview.

He said airlines from both countries had been clamoring for the increase to establishments amid the growing demand for travel to the region.

At the moment, flag carrier Philippine Airlines and budget airline Cebu Pacific have flights to Chinese cities Beijing, Shanghai, Xiamen and Guangzhou.

Arcilla earlier said the air panel may seek talks on new deals with Indonesia and Hong Kong. The body is composed of representatives from the Department of Transportation and Communications, the Department of Tourism, Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Trade and Industry.

SEAir, Tiger Aiways enter into marketing, lease deals

ONE of the region's largest budget carriers, Singapore's Tiger Airways, has partnered with a local airline to gain a foothold in the country's fast-growing travel market.

In a statement, local leisure carrier Southeast Asian Airlines (SEAir) said it had signed marketing arrangement with tigerairways.com. This allows the Singaporean carrier to sell SEAir flights in passengers.

At the same time, SEAir said it would start offering international flights by next month using aircraft leased from Tiger Airways. Its first flights will be between Clark Freeport in Pampanga and Singapore.

The arrangement will make SEAir Tiger Airways' first partner airline in the region.

"Additional routes operated by SEAir using these new jet aircraft will be added to the program over the coming months," president and CEO Joselito Zapanta said in a statement.

SEAir will lease two Airbus aircraft from Tiger Airways, which is partly owned by Singapore Airlines. Seats will be marketed and distributed using Tiger Airways' established Internet booking system.

The resulting operational and cost efficiencies will ensure more low fares seats are available and contribute to the growth of SEAir and the Clark gateway "benefiting customers in the Philippines and across the Asia Pacific region," the company said.

At the moment, SEAir currently operates flights on specialized tourist destinations like Caticlan, Boracay and Bacolod, Iloilo.

"With this new collaboration with Tiger Airways, we will also be able to serve more international visitors in the Philippines by offering more destinations with great value, low fares," Zapanta said.

"In addition, the introduction of these new jet services will create a welcome boost to the Philippines tourism industry and create more high-caliber local jobs," he added.

Approval from the Civil Aeronautics Board has already been obtained for the lease.

"Making flights operated by SEAir available on the Tiger Airways website will ensure that customers can easily access more routes and destinations with the same low fares currently offered through [our website]," Tiger Airways Holdings president and CEO Tony Davis said. Paolo G. Montecillo

4th Department of Education - National Employees Union National Congress

November 23-25, 2010
DAP Conference Center, Tagaytay City

Messages

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Ganito kami sa Makati.

Sa Makati, magkatuwang ang pamahalaan at mga residente sa hangarin ng pag-ahon.

May libreng edukasyon – mula preschool hanggang kolehiyo – para sa mahihirap. Pati mga gamit pang-eskwela, ibinibigay ng pamahalaan taon-taon. Ang mga estudyante, hindi nahuhuli sa iba dahil kumpleto at moderno ang pasilidad ng kanilang mga paaralan.

Bukod sa edukasyon, may libreng pagamot at programang pangkabuhayan para sa lahat. Ang mga kawani ng gobyerno, nakakatanggap ng dagdag sustento. At ang mga lolo't lola, binibigyang importansya ng pamahalaan.

We Have the Will, We Have the Way
www.makati.gov.ph

NICKEL ASIA Corp. president Gerald Brimo, NAC chair Manuel Zamora, Philippine Stock Exchange president Val Antonio Suntay and Commissioner Juanita Clavio of the Securities Exchange Commission lead the ceremonial ringing of the bell at the PSE to signal the start of trading on Monday. NAC (not bell 3) debuts in the market on the same day with a 10 percent rise in its share price to P16.50. (PHOTOGRAPH BY ALYSSA SALOMON, PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER)

San Miguel eyes full ownership of Indophil

Firm now doing due diligence

By Doris C. Dumlao

(REVISED)(FIRST SAN Miguel Corp. is in talks to acquire up to 100 percent of Australian mining firm Indophil Resources NL, which controls a third of the P5.2-billion Tampakan copper-gold project in Mindanao.

San Miguel president Ramon Ang told reporters yesterday the conglomerate was now undertaking due diligence audit of Indophil.

"If everything turns out well, we'll have to [do a tender offer to buy the] 66 percent of Indophil," Ang said.

SMC has secured a stake in the much-coveted Tampakan project—named in Southeast Asia's richest, untapped copper and gold deposit—by acquiring an 18.1 percent interest in Indophil in October.

Indophil owns 37.5 percent of Sagittarius Mines Inc., the local company working on the Tampakan project in South Cotabato. Indophil's other stake is controlled by London-based global mining giant Xstrata Plc.

Ang said it was agreed upon that SMC would undertake a due diligence audit of Indophil through January, after which it would make a decision on whether to increase its stake in the Australian firm.

He explained that Australian regulations were so strict that SMC would have to make an offer to buy out all shareholders if it forged a deal with the current 34 shareholders of Indophil.

Ang said that if and when San Miguel was able to buy 100 percent of Indophil, the next step would be to talk to Manila about the Tampakan project.

He estimated that Tagolomo would have to provide equity equivalent to a third of the project cost of Tampakan while the rest would be covered by borrowings.

Ang said San Miguel's offer for the rest of Indophil's shares would depend on the outcome of the due-diligence audit.

The Tampakan mine is estimated to contain 12.8 million tons of copper and 15.6 million ounces of gold, at a grade of 0.6 percent copper and 0.5 gram per ton of gold.

Aside from Tampakan, Ang said Indophil had interests in four other lucrative mining assets, three of which are in the Philippines.

PhilWeb inks deal with Simuong group of Vietnam

By Paolo G. Montecillo

GAMING FIRM PhilWeb Corp. has signed a deal that will facilitate its entry into Laos, marking the company's first foray into the international market.

In a statement, PhilWeb said it had signed a deal with Vietnam's Simuong Group, an industrial conglomerate based in Hochiminh, to jointly develop and operate Internet and mobile games of chance in Laos.

The deal covers Internet gaming skills similar to those operated by PhilWeb on behalf of state-run Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor).

"The parties will operate under exclusive Lao People's Democratic Republic or Lao PDR government franchises, and will create new revenue channels to fund infrastructure and social development projects," it said.

The memorandum of understanding concluded a visit to Manila of the Simuong group officials, led by president Hoghanh Phaphithak, foreign investments director Soutchack Chanleun and Lao PDR Ministry of Planning and Development deputy director general Monethong Bongsay.

MJC taps Accor group for P1-B hotel

THE MANILA Jockey Club group has teamed up with leading Accor Group for the management of a P1-billion four-star hotel property that it will build in San Lazaro Tourism and Business Park in Sta. Cruz, Manila.

MJC Investments Corp. (MJC) yesterday disclosed to the Philippine Stock Exchange that a memorandum of understanding had been signed with the Accor Group, through its affiliate AHPC Singapore Pte. Ltd., for casual-luxury and hotel management services for a 250-room hotel to be built by MJC in Manila.

The Accor Group is a leading global hotel manager which operates and manages 4,300 hotels worldwide. Its hotel brands include Sofitel, Mercure, Novotel, Pullman, Ibis and Etap.

The MJC hotel design, layout, facilities and standards will be in accordance with the Mercure brand, given that the property is intended to be a four-star hotel offering upscale but affordable hotel rooms.

"The final terms of the hotel management agreement will be negotiated within three months from the execution of the MOU," the disclosure said.

MJC, a subsidiary of horse racing operator Manila Jockey Club Inc., has earmarked another P600 million to build another 280-room hotel-resort property at its new horse racing complex in Carmona, Cavite (see this AIDU covers only the planned hotel in San Lazaro, site of the former racetrack.

It was earlier reported that MJC was targeting the groundbreaking for the new hotel in Manila by the first quarter of next year. It will occupy less than 2,000 square meters out of the property remaining with the MJC group in the area.

The group is upbeat on putting up a new hotel in the area due to its proximity to the historical and cultural corner of Manila and to Binondo, the hub of Filipino-Chinese commerce. Doris C. Dumlao

S&P raises state bank's credit rating

By Michelle V. Ramos

STANDARD & Poor's has upgraded the credit rating of Development Bank of the Philippines, saying the improving dollar liquidity of the government boosted the capability of the state-owned bank to meet its external obligations.

The upgrade covers the foreign currency-denominated liabilities of DBP. With the upgrade, the bank's credit rating now stands at "BB-/B," up by a notch from the previous score of "BB+/B." The latest rating, however, still falls under the "speculative category" and is two notches below investment grade.

The move to lift the credit score of DBP came on the decision of S&P further this month to upgrade the rating of the Philippine government's foreign currency-denominated liabilities. The latest S&P rating for the sovereign stands at two notches below investment grade.

S&P raised the country's rating on the back of its rising reserves of dollars and other foreign currencies. The credit rating firm said the growing external liquidity improves the country's ability to service debts denominated in foreign currencies.

Stocks continue to weaken

From page B1

Stock Exchange index shed 32.81 points or 0.33 percent to finish at 9,334.54.

Although investor sentiment was weak, local sell-offs were tempered by attractive valuations of some stocks following a sharp market correction nine weeks ago.

Value turnover stood at P5.58 billion. There were almost twice as many stocks that declined for every single issue that gained.

Among the stocks that faltered were SM Investments, PLDT, Cebu Air, Bloomberry Res. EDC, Universal Robina, JMC, San Miguel Brewery, DMCI Holdings, Semirara Mining, First Gen, Metro Pacific Investments and ICTSI.

On the other hand, newly listed Nickel Asia led the day's gainers, rising 3.9 percent to P16.50. Despite the sluggish market this week, it has been trading above its initial public offering price of P13 each.

Likewise buoyant for the session were Metrobank, Alliance Global, Ayala, Ayala Land, Megaworld, Petron and Atlas Mining.

Overnight, the closely watched Dow Jones Industrial Index fell 162.21 points or 1.27 percent to 12,634.59 on cancellation of historic-level million tension between North and South Korea and lingering concerns about fiscally troubled Europe's nations. Doris C. Dumlao

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

CURRENCIES

BizNews Asia marks 9th anniversary

BNA to award Presidents, tycoons, business leaders, property developers

CHIEF JUSTICE RENATO C. CORONA

BNA PUBLISHER ANTONIO S. LOPEZ

BIZNEWS Asia marks its ninth anniversary tonight with the theme "Excellence and Inspiring Leadership."

The theme recognizes the overall economic excellence of Philippine political and business leaders at a time of great turmoil and drastic economic changes amid globalization, the doubling of the per capita income, and consistent resilience of the economy.

Presidents, Vice President Jejomar Binay, Chief Justice Renato Corona and House Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr. lead guests and honorees at the anniversary celebration and awards presentation, at the InterContinental Hotel at 8:30 p.m.

BizNews Asia, the country's largest weekly business and news magazine with a pass-on readership of more than 350,000, will honor the presidents of the Philippines for the past 50 years, leading tycoons and tycoons, who made the economy what it is today—robust, prosperous and inclusive.

President Diosdado Macapagal, Ferdinand Marcos, Corazon Aquino, Fidel Ramos, Joseph Estrada, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and incumbent President Benigno Aquino III — showed inspired leadership.

BUSINESS ASIA LIFETIME AND BUSINESS ICON 2010 AWARDEES

HENRY SY SR.
Widely-acclaimed business [illegible] genius in the country whom no textbooks failed to cry loud from China, he built what grew into the largest banking, retail and property conglomerate in the Philippines and Asian history, becoming the richest Filipino with networth of $6.2 billion.

RAMON ANG
Aside the "Alexander the Great of Philippine Business," the boundless-energy San Miguel Corp. boss is not complacent that is the largest, most diversified, one of the most profitable and with stakes in eight new businesses in 2009 alone.

MANUEL V. PANGILINAN
He is the telco, power, utilities, infra, mining and broadcast czar and has been one of the country's biggest investors through the years, renowned as a big investment management practitioner and believer of values in the businesses he is in.

TERESITA SY-COSON
She showed excellence in the management of the companies under SM Investments Corp., resulting in the delivery of consistently high quality products and services at affordable prices, increased profitability, enhanced shareholder value, and a solid foundation for growth.

THE BUSINESS ASIA WHO IS WHO IN REAL ESTATE AND LIFESTYLE ENHANCEMENT AWARDEES

JOSE L. ACUZAR
He chairs New San Jose Builders Inc., which developed a 400-hectare mixed-use township in Samal, Davao del Norte. New San Jose Builders, excellence is not a goal. It is understood consistently in every project. His company projects that every project is of the top 10% class and beloved of time.

AMABLE B. ARANETA
Ayala Land's largest single shareholder, he is the father of Computer Literacy in the Philippines and the King of computer schools. His ABE Araneta Sun Dealers has 300 computers and 100,000 students. His ABE Araneta Sun Dealers has 300 computers and 100,000 students. His ABE Araneta Sun Dealers has 300 computers and 100,000 students

ROBINSONS RESIDENCES

THE TRION TOWERS

Well-lit. Well-ventilated. Well-designed.

A choice well-made

Come home to The Trion Towers, where everything is well-designed. It features the revolutionary **Tri-Axial Fresh Flow System (TFFS)** that allows fresh air and natural light not only in corridors and common areas but in every unit as well.

With the TFFS, the spacious units, remarkable amenities and building features, living at this innovative condominium is a choice well-made.

The Trion Towers is a project of Robinsons Residences, the urban lifestyle brand of the Robinsons Land Corporation Residential Division.

Visit The Trion Towers Showroom from 9am to 6pm daily at Right Ave. cor. McKinley Parkway, Bonifacio Global City.

CONTACT 397-0101, 636-0888 OR 0922-8380888

ROBINSONS LAND CORPORATION

www.robinsonsresidences.com

Insular Life:
Flying with the Far-sighted Guardian

The Philippine Eagle is one of the world's largest: a noble bird whose size and regal bearing have earned it the name Haribon - Haring Ibon, the King of Birds. It has the keenest eyes, enabling it to see over long distances. Philippine eagles are tender and nurturing towards their young.

Despite the ravages of urbanization, it still soars through the skies: a wild, resilient symbol of strength and endurance.

Insular Life has chosen the Philippine eagle for its new logo as it embodies the qualities and values that have made it one of the country's leading insurance firms for a century:

A resilient survivor that has weathered through the best and worst of national and corporate history;

A bastion of strength on whom the Filipino can lean on;

A far-sighted guardian that looks out for its policyholders, creating opportunities for them to grow, providing a secure foundation;

A nurturing partner who gives only the best and goes the extra mile, helping them plan ahead for each stage in life;

We have done so for a century - and we will remain your far-sighted guardian even in the years to come.

We are Insular Life.

1910
Insular

An eye on the future, giving wings to dreams.

One hundred years ago, we started a tradition of looking out for the insurance needs of the Filipino, sharing our valuable knowledge in financial security, through life's many changes.

It is because of the trust and confidence you have given us, that we continue to be the country's first and largest Filipino life insurance company.

As we move toward our next century, we created a fitting symbol to represent the Insular brand - the Philippine Eagle.

The Philippine Eagle, our national bird, and the air's noblest flyer, holds supreme domination over the skies, as the Haring Ibon.

Just like the Philippine Eagle, we share with you our keen vision, a new perspective, to help you strengthen your wings to reach your dreams for a financially secure future.

Look ahead, be assured.

Insular Life: Your Far-sighted Guardian

To become a nation's far-sighted guardian calls for the qualities of resilience, reliability and integrity, despite the ravages of time. As it celebrates its Centennial, Insular Life has displayed these qualities time and again throughout its storied history.

1910 was an important year for the Filipino people. The year, indeed, turned out to be a good one with the Americans reaching an every aspect of economic, political and social development. Optimistic about the future without disregarding the challenges that lay ahead, the founding fathers of what is now the first and largest Filipino insurance company, Insular Life, thought that there was no better time to establish a life insurance company than then. On Nov. 25, 1910, just as the Philippines was flexing its wings as an independent nation, Insular Life was born.

While the world was suffering from the Great Depression, Insular Life made its first milestone when it occupied its own building in Plaza Moraga, then the most important commercial and business district in Manila. It also expanded its overseas operations when it opened its Honolulu, Hawaii branch in Hawaii in 1934, making it the first Filipino insurance company to operate in a foreign country.

Steadfast Commitment

The company honored its steadfast commitment to its policyholders most vividly when it honored its pre-war and Japanese occupation commitments at war's end. Policies with premiums paid during the war with Mickey Mouse currency were deemed in force and almost P1 million were paid out to beneficiaries of the policyholders who died or were killed during the war.

During the reconstruction period, Insular Life lost about 92 percent of its total assets when the Commonwealth Government nullified all bank balances to rehabilitate the country's banks. The company could have very conveniently declared bankruptcy and shed off its obligations with whatever resources it had left. But Insular Life chose not to declare bankruptcy, continuing its operations and meeting its obligations to policyholders.

In 1953, Insular Life opened the first school of insurance in the Philippines. The following year, it became the first company to lower its premiums in order to reach out to more segments of Philippine society. It introduced what would soon be a hugely successful business line—industrial life insurance for low-income earning Filipinos—in 1958. That same year, Insular Life also pioneered the pawn insurance written by Occidental Life Insurance Co. of California in one of the biggest insurance transactions in the insurance industry.

The Golden Year

As the company celebrated its golden jubilee in 1960, Insular Life marked another milestone by declaring its first ever-year cash dividend to stockholders. Continuing its commitment to society in its role to help the underprivileged, it established the Insular Life Educational Foundation (ILEF) in 1962. Formally incorporated in 1969 and known today as the Insular Life Foundation (ILF), it awards college scholarships for poor but scholastically outstanding youth.

In 1965, the Insular Life offices moved to a new building at the corner of Ayala Avenue and Paseo de Roxas in Makati. In 1970, more than a decade later, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner approved the reorganization plan of Insular Life and made it the first Filipino life insurance company to reincubate. The reincubation process was completed in 1987 and transferred ownership of the company from stockholders to policyholders.

In the 1980s, Insular Life embarked on an investment diversification strategy to expand its range of financial services and to provide opportunities for profit and growth.

Insular Life Healthcare Inc., the company's health care insurance subsidiary, was established in 1981. In the time, Insular Life also acquired a 30-percent equity in Union Bank of the Philippines, a 40-percent equity in an investment house, Asian Oceanic Investment House and a 30.8-percent equity in a savings bank, which was later renamed Insular Life Savings and Trust Company. The following year, it acquired 20-percent ownership of the AUBE and renamed it Insular Investment and Trust Corp.

In 1985, Insular General Insurance Co. Inc., Insular Life's general insurance subsidiary, became fully operational. During the first seven months in 1986, the company's consolidated assets also reached the P20 Billion mark.

New Millennium

As the country ushered in the new millennium, it faced challenges on both the political and economic fronts. The government of President Joseph Estrada was accused of cronyism, ineptitude, and a lack of direction that led to a grievous economic situation. The government was rocked by scandals and accused of graft and corruption initiated by those in power. Estrada was finally ousted by popular uprising in January 2001.

Despite these challenging situations, Insular Life shifted logic by transferring to its new headquarters in Alabang, Muntinlupa City in 2001. Insular Life's new home brought renewed confidence in the company and showed its resilience and reliability in times of crisis. It also signaled that the company was here for the long run. This transfer served as a symbolic step for a corporate breaking itself for the landmark and 21-based 21st century.

Just a year after its transfer to its new home, the company achieved a new milestone when it reached P1 billion in first-year premiums. In 2004, it again made its mark as the first Filipino life insurance company to break the billion-peso mark when its net income reached P1.08 billion.

Not resting on its laurels, the company believes that creating innovative new services for Filipinos is the key for sustainable growth. It launched Wealth Builder, its first investment-linked product, in 2005. At the time, Insular Life earned recognition for its trustworthiness when *Reader's Digest*, a highly esteemed global publication, presented it with the Gold Superbrand Award. The award was special for the company since it was given by the publication on behalf of the consumers who voted Insular Life as a very trusted brand against other insurance companies.

In 2006, just as Insular Life passed the P50 billion mark, it received Reader's Digest's Gold Trusted Brand award for the second year in a row.

To mark its 96th year, Insular Life broke ground for its Cebu Business Center while keeping its faith in the market in the Queen City of the South and its environs. The Insular Life Golden Eagle Awards for outstanding achievers was relaunched in the same year.

Insular Life has long been aware that blessings come with challenges. Over the past 100 years, it continues to reinvent itself, becoming relevant and ready for the years to come. In celebration of its centennial, the company relaunched its new brand identity. With our national bird, the Philippine eagle as its new logo, the company just says that its very much for the next century ahead and ready to soar to new heights.

As the Philippines' largest Filipino life insurance company, Insular Life has been the nation's far-sighted guardian for a century. Its products offer the best cost-benefit ratios among insurance plans in the market and are designed to allow individuals to wield control over their and their family's financial security. Indeed, Insular Life continues to design innovative and responsive products and services for Filipino families, helping them realize their dreams for the next century and beyond.

Insular Life Milestones

1910 Insular Life is incorporated and organized as the first all-Filipino life insurance company.

1931 Insular Life is the first local insurance company to move into its own building in Manila's then-fashionable Plaza Moraga district.

1945 Insular Life honors its pre-war and occupation commitments regardless of the great risk this poses to the company. This act reinforces the public's faith in the life insurance industry and pushes the company to the industrial forefront.

1958 Insular Life introduces industrial life insurance to the Philippine market.

1962 Insular Life establishes the Insular Life Education Foundation (ILEF) to administer college scholarship programs for poor but deserving youth.

1976 Insular Life becomes the first embattled Philippine life insurance company. Mutualization transfers the company's ownership from stockholders to policyholders.

1987 Insular Life becomes a fully-reincubated company.

1990 Insular Life embarks on an investment diversification strategy, effectively expanding its financial services and providing opportunities for profit and growth.

1991 Insular Life establishes Insular Life Health Care Inc., its health care insurance subsidiary. The company also makes several acquisitions that will lead to the formation of the Insular Life Savings and Trust Company.

2001 Insular Life moves its corporate headquarters to its current location in Alabang.

2005 Insular Life is awarded Readers' Digest's Gold Trusted Brand award in the insurance category. Likewise, the company launches Wealth Builder, its first investment-linked product.

2008 Insular Life breaks ground for its Cebu Business Center. The company also relaunches its Golden Eagle Awards for outstanding high school students.

2010 In celebration of its Centennial, Insular Life relaunches its brand identity as the country's far-sighted guardian with the Philippine Eagle as its primary logo image.

The Far-Sighted Guardian's Far-Reaching Customer Service

It is 100 years of serving the best interests of the Filipino people. Insular Life takes pride in the fact that it has developed numerous customer-friendly processes that ensure that both potential and regular policyholders feel that they are getting the best and friendliest service possible.

Magandang Araw, Pilipinas!

The Magandang Araw Experience is how Insular Life refers to its Policy Servicing Brand and it is a throwback to the bright and cheery greeting that starts the day in this part of the world. Specifically crafted to lead customers into becoming staunch Insular Life advocates, the experience makes customers more loyal by making them feel welcome and comfortable. This honest, heartfelt feeling puts Insular Life head-and-among policyholders as the best company to meet their insurance and investment needs.

The Experience also provides the Magandang Araw Insular Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) which allows customers to access their policy information and policy values 24/7 using via the 878-3-888 hotline.

The Welcome Call: Walking Policy Holders Through the Basics

While going through the first few weeks or months of a new policy, customers are bound to ask many questions as Insular Life's Welcome Call centers as a real blessing. Done a month after the issuance of a policy, Insular Life's friendly and capable customer service center staff calls customers to formally welcome them into the IL Family. This initiative supplies customers with much needed information and advises them on the policy options specified in the insurance application form. As soon as their information has been verified, customers can expect hassle-free transactions in the future.

The Other IPOD: Insular Proof of Delivery

Insular Life believes in keeping tabs on all correspondences mailed out to its customers which is why it constructs a reliable courier service to deliver premium notices and other communications. In doing so, Insular Life is able to gather relevant information as to who received the mail as well as a description of the actual mailing address.

Premium Over-the-Counter

This facility actually makes the payment process easier for customers, giving them the option to use their credit cards to settle premiums due on an installment basis. With a minimum total premium of P 2,000.00, customers can pay their premiums in three easy monthly installments at IL branches on or before the due date.

I-EAGLE: The Convenience of Transacting Online

Most recently, Insular Life has also introduced an online transaction facility called the Insular Educator Access to Gateway Link Electronic System (I-EAGLE) where customers can get policy updates, initiate policy transactions, and pay for premiums by subscribing to the online service.

I-EAGLE gives subscribers the option of paying through eDepot where customers can do one-time payment transactions online by using their credit cards. Another system, the Auto-Charging Option (ACO) allows automatic charging of future premiums to the customer's credit card as those are due. The debit schedule will depend on the card's statement date. This adds to the service value as customers are able to manage their expenses accordingly.

Insular Life: 100 Years of Caring

Over the past 100 years, Insular Life has taken pride in its needs-based approach to insurance, offering products made to suit everyone's needs. This approach has enabled the company to provide for policyholders' specific needs at specific times in their lives. But more than just to its core business, Insular Life has extended its approach to its initiatives in corporate social responsibility. Indeed, the numerous activities realized and implemented by the **Insular Life Foundation Inc. (ILFI)** broaden life into the company's corporate social responsibilities, making life so much better not only for IL's clients but, in general, for the Filipino people.

A Commitment to Education

Education was the primary focus for ILFI when it was founded in 1982. Keeping a firm belief that education would best uplift the lives of the Filipino people, ILFI initiated numerous programs that would give incentives to poor but deserving high school students. In doing so, ILFI has expanded the company's commitment to excellence by working with schools to help alleviate the country's current educational crisis.

One specific program is the annual **Golden Eagle Incentive Program and College Scholarship Grant** wherein the ten most outstanding public and private high school valedictorians from over 2,000 schools nationwide are awarded scholarships covering their collegiate tuition along with allowances for books and clothing.

Through its **Adopt-a-School** program, Insular Life has also worked extensively with public schools in the Muntinlupa area to improve on site facilities to improve the learning experience of children and young adults.

The students at the Muntinlupa Sans Elementary School (MESS) now learn the concepts of science and math through the DepEd-prescribed educational programs shown on Knowledge Channel. The three wide-screen TV sets and the cabling facilities donated by the Foundation enable more students to take advantage of the learning opportunities brought about by the new equipment.

The donation of 20 brand new personal computers for its computer laboratory became a springboard for Pedro Diaz High School to develop a business curriculum. This eventually led to the school's accreditation as the country's first business high school. To maximize the benefit of these facilities, even out-of-school youths and unemployed adults in the community are given computer training to develop in them a marketable skill.

The ILF's four-pronged **Literacy Program** is made up of four main programs, with various supporting activities. The activities are usually scheduled to coincide with the annual National Children's Book Month in July, though some activities are scheduled at various times of the year. In 2005, ILF began donating storybooks to beneficiary school, this program was expanded the following year when P 810,000.00 worth of books were donated to MESS. The Tulay sa Don Bosco Foundation was added to the roster of beneficiaries in 2007 and the Educational and Research Development Assistance Foundation (ERDAS) was included in 2008.

A corollary **Storytelling Workshop** done in partnership with Alfonso House was launched in July 2007 where educators and volunteers from MESS and Tulay participated under facilitator Joy Meneses. The workshop was so successful that it was held again in August 2008 with a new set of participants from the same institutions. The workshop was actually an offshoot of the first **Storytelling Sessions** held at MESS in 2006 for students in the pre-school and elementary levels. In 2008, an *I Love Books!* **Party** was held to help sustain the program.

On July 10 of this year, Insular Life launched two new **Storybooks for Children** in celebration of its Centennial.

Chairman and CEO Augusto P. Aruja and President Mayo Chuidian [illegible] Insular Life Chairman's Award to Alejandro Roces, Jr. of Concepcion Elementary School, one of the 100 Years of ILIFE

Chairman of the Board Emeritus Mario O. Ortiz-Luis, Jr. of Insular Life Foundation Inc. (ILIFE) and Vice Chairman and Vice President for Corporate Affairs Ma. Lourdes Rausa-Chan [illegible] Insular Life Foundation Inc. (ILIFE) Chairman's Award to Pedro Diaz High School

Pupils from Sans Elementary School in Muntinlupa proudly display their copy containing their written captions, books and crafters, donated by Insular Life employees

The Loudest Girl in the World and Christmas in February, both written by Paloma Jaworski, Miss Tobias Plays, were developed in partnership with Adarna House. Illustrated respectively by Isabel Roxas and Ariel Santillan, the books focused on fostering a love for learning, financial literacy and situations unique to families of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). As part of the launch, a **Storytelling Caravan** dubbed 100 Years of Insular, 100 Beloved Filipino Children's Stories was held at the host schools that saved the Department of Education's National Achievement Test (NAT) for SY 2008-2009. Copies of these books were also given to 1,000 NAT topnotchers.

A Commitment to the Community

Through its employee council, the company organizes outreach projects to orphanages, homes for the elderly, hospitals, depressed areas, and calamity-stricken areas. Through its partnership with NGOs and other foundations and through its donations, it has supported various causes such as environmental protection, children's welfare, and social development.

The company's participation in the Gawad Kalinga program demonstrates the spirit of employee volunteerism and cooperation with humanitarian causes. From 2001, employees from the Insular Life group of companies have been helping build homes for poor families in Montalban and Los Pinas under both GK and Habitat for Humanity. In 2006, Insular Life Foundation supported the first ever Tindhalan in the GK community in Sandoval by, Las Pinas. Tindhalan is a learning center that provides educational programs for the GK youth through a series of learning competency training. The program also gives them access to educational enrichment opportunities.

The most recent employee volunteerism activity was the building of the Bottle Schoolhouses in San Pablo, Laguna. Over one hundred Insular Life employees participated in building four school houses made of 13 liter PET bottles. The company is a pioneering sponsor of the environmentally friendly and very sturdy Bottle Schools of The My Shelter Foundation.

Honoring the Country's Outstanding Achievers

Insular Life has been the corporate partner of the JCI Senate Philippines in the search for The Outstanding Filipinos or TOFIL. TOFIL honors Filipinos, 41 years of age and over, whose exemplary performance and outstanding achievements have greatly contributed to the welfare of the Filipino people in enhancing and uplifting the lives of their fellowmen. As of 2008, 104 outstanding Filipinos have been given the TOFIL Award.

In 2006, Insular Life produced the TOFIL Book Compact Threads, Uncommon Lives Profiles of TOFIL Awardees. These are stories of their diligence, persistence and passion in their chosen fields and their desire to make a positive difference to the lives of others. The books were distributed among 2,000 high schools and more than 500 public and private libraries in the country. It also won the 2006 Gold Quill Award from the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC).

Uplifting the People through the Arts

Insular Life was among the first Filipino corporations to patronize and promote Philippine art in the 1960's by commissioning Fernando Amorsolo for a series of paintings on Philippine history and today's Amorsolo was later honored with the National Artist Award. Today, the company's collection of paintings and sculpture of renowned Filipino artists has expanded creating a testament to the Filipinos' skill and ingenuity. The company also promotes excellence in the performing arts through it many venue grants to music, dance and production companies in its two theaters located in the Insular Life building in Makati and in its headquarters in Muntinlupa.

New Innovations to Kick-Start a New Century

In the 100 years of looking after the Filipino people, Insular Life has been devising innovative ways to serve its clients' interests to the best of its abilities. These innovations have been introduced in various fields, improving both product quality and service delivery to the great satisfaction of Li's numerous policyholders.

Insular Life is About Being With You Every Step of the Way

Life Stage Marketing Approach

Insular Life's unique Life Stage Marketing is based on the idea that there are times in a person's life that trigger specific needs or desires. These needs are further anchored onto various stages of human life and addressing these calls for providing accurate and appropriate financial advice.

Insular Life is positioned to offer help to customers when it counts. Insular Life can provide financial advice at each and every life stage of an individual. Its financial advisers have been specially trained to be able to address needs based on an individual's life stage. The Insular Life website has also been tailored to make visitors more aware of their specific financial needs, to help them determine how much they need to set aside to address those needs depending on their life stage, and identify the right products for them.

Magandang Araw Insular Loyalty Program

Insular Life takes pride in providing a full circle of innovative customer experiences to its Gusto Special Policyholders through the ESP Program.

Under the Program, Extra Special Policyholders or ESPs enjoy exclusive benefits such as a free annual medical exam and complimentary breakfast at accredited medical facilities and lunch/restaurants nationwide, as well as Christmas and Birthday cards and newsletters. They receive invitations to special events sponsored by the Company and are given the Prestige Card that offers discounts and special perks from select merchant partners. On top of this, ESPs are given an exclusive privilege to participate in the Rewards Program, considered as the first and unrivalled kind in the industry.

As the company celebrates its 100th year anniversary, it commits to its tradition of innovative offers and services to address the evolving needs of its policyholders.

Effective January 1, 2011, Insular Life expands its customer loyalty program to include all policyholders, offering two levels – Basic and Prestige. All Insular Life Policyholders (formerly automatically become a member of the Magandang Araw Insular Loyalty Program.

Policyholders who qualify for the Basic Level enjoy free financial assessment from Insular Life financial advisers, invitations to Insular Life corporate events and exclusive discounts and freebies from merchant partners.

ESPs or policyholders who qualify for the Prestige Level are entitled to Basic Level benefits and more.

Insular Life Cares About the Filipino Family

Family Matters Caravan

With the aim to promote financial responsibility amongst Filipino families, Insular Life, through the Family Matters Caravan (FMC), partners with selected private schools.

FMC is a nationwide outreach activity provided for free by Insular Life. It targets primarily schoolbased Parent-Teacher Associations, communities and family-centered organizations.

Each FMC run consists of a story-telling session and the donation of books, workshops on responsible parenthood, as well as seminars on practical money management.

Insular Life Cares About Safeguarding the Health of a Nation

Health and Wealth Forum

Insular Life acknowledges its responsibility to help improve the lives of Filipinos. This social responsibility motivated the company to pioneer the Health and Wealth Forum, an advocacy program which aims to address current health issues and discuss relevant money matters which may help Filipinos cope with the changing natural and financial environment.

To date, many corporations, institutions, associations and communities are already part of the Health & Wealth forums. This forum and booth setup aims to promote products and services that provide a healthy and wealthy lifestyle for employees and the general public.

Insular Life provides financial literacy consultations while partners provide talks on topics such as fashion and grooming, health and wellness, stress and weight management, among others.

Health Insurance – 1-Value Plus

Insular Life addresses the rising cost of hospitalization and medical treatment through an HMO plan that protects policy holders from the risk of economic loss caused by illness and subsequent confinement.

1-Value Plus enables an individual to pay for hospitalization and medical treatment for only a fraction of its cost. It also keeps family members from worrying about removing out funds to pay for medical expenses, giving them some well-needed peace of mind.

1-Value Plus's features include a cash allowance per day of confinement to replace income lost, a lump sum in the event of a dread disease, additional cash benefits that can be accumulated for use in future medical treatments, and life insurance coverage.

Touching Lives: Meeting a Nation's Changing Needs

As it celebrates its 100th year, Insular Life touches the lives of the Filipino people even as it evolves to meet their changing investment and insurance needs.

By Joel V. Pajaro and Ronald M. del Rosario

Insular Life is the leading wholly-owned Filipino life insurance company in the Philippines. With some 2,000 agents and over 50 offices in the country, its business grew by 12% in 2010. This is proof of the unifying trust the shareholders have in the company.

In fact, today's Filipinos realize the value of investing their hard-earned money in life insurance to prepare for any uncertainties on the road ahead. In many ways, life insurance is forced savings. However, only about 1 – 1.5% of the 93 million Filipinos are insured. "Based on our research, only one to every 10 Filipinos would retire with their material investment secured," said Jesus Alfonso Ibobilla, Insular Life's executive vice president and head of its sales and marketing group. "This is why our personal advocacy is share the benefits of having a life insurance policy remains relevant until today."

Life Insurance is a Necessity

According to Ibobilla, life insurance is essential for all income earners because it is the only financial instrument available that provides indemnity against untimely loss. "All other savings and investment products will only give us what has been accumulated while we are living. None of us can ignore the uncertainties of life; therefore it is prudent, wise and responsible for us to protect ourselves and our families against risks of financial ruin by being properly insured," he explained.

"I've always likened life insurance into a chair with three legs," he said. "The first one is social security, the second being retirement plans, and the last is personal and privately funded plans like Insular Life's (the third chair). The chair would not work properly without any one of these."

The Life Stage-Driven Approach to Insurance

Nevertheless, insurance in one form or another is necessary regardless of what life stage a person is in.

Ibobilla went on to say that there are several reasons why a person would want or need life insurance coverage. These usually vary depending on an individual's life stage.

The factors include lifestyle protection, health security, and assured savings for a young, single professional. A childless individual, on the other hand, may think of insurance as a way of establishing wealth or sustainable income.

"The priorities shift when one becomes a parent to maximize for getting coverage may include making sure children's school expenses are covered; there's emergency fund for his or her disposal, and that debt can be settled anytime," he said.

For employees or those in their fifties, however, investing in a life insurance may be a means to secure retirement settlement, to preserve human economic value, and act as a tool for long-term investing.

The retirement age, however, brings a new set of challenges. Life insurance at this point may be wanted or needed to complete an estate transfer, manage taxes, or to leave a legacy to one's family.

Working at Insular: Trust, Respect, and Camaraderie

The working environment at Insular Life and the manner by which the company motivates its employees to go beyond expectations have also played a key role in its longevity.

"Insular Life thrives in an environment of trust, respect and camaraderie. Management and employees have mutual trust on the way how the company can best serve the Filipino people. Also, the company direction and targets are fully supported by the employees," shares Susan G. Nicolas, first vice president and head of human resources division.

She added that a continuous improvement on levels of performance with respect for the individual is carried out through mentoring and discipline.

"There is always a time for fun and work-life balance, while working on stretched goals and higher expectations," she explains.

"At Insular Life, we believe that the best customer experience is delivered by people, also with best experiences from its company. We take care of our people, individual and group rewards are available for outstanding contributions to the company's operations. We operate like a family with individual time does but equally important and inter-related roles. Working as a team is natural."

Training programs are held at various professional levels among. It's agents and agency leaders. This continuing education in various aspects of insurance selling that leads them to improved performance.

There is also an Employee Council called ACELA (for Ang Lahay ng Insular Life sa Alitaptapan). ACELA fund is fused with management in looking out for the needs of the employees whether it be interest of benefits, the company's activities, even educational programs for self development among others.

Insular Life as a Showcase of the Filipino's Skill

Myrna Alcantara, Vice president and head of Insular Life's allied marketing channels, echoes Susan Nicolas's views.

"Focus and importance are given to the company's stakeholders—agents, partners, policyholders as well as its employees. It is also an environment that encourages healthy competition. Bareboek is expected from each one and at the end of the day, we know that hard work will be rewarded," she explains.

Alcantara has been with the company for 26 years, about a third of its lifetime. It was her first job and would most probably be her last.

"I have personally witnessed and have been involved in many changes and events in the company. Two of these turning points were the company's recapitalization which was completed in 1980, and the management of a distribution channel/marketing partnership where she is personally involved. She said this has consistently generated for the company substantial premiums contributing to the company's growth and profitability.

Asked about her opinion on Insular Life making it to 100 years, she says, "This is a clear proof that a Filipino can be one of the best. Insular Life is a prime example and showcase of the Filipino's skill in business management and leadership. With 100 years of service to show, Insular Life is telling the country that Filipinos can best serve the needs of fellow Filipinos."

She added: "Not everybody gets to have the chance to be part of a historic event like this. It makes me feel proud and grateful for all the blessings I and my family have received and continue to enjoy because of my association with Insular Life."

Impeccable Service, Touching Lives

Top life insurance agent Lyne Hilag says Insular Life has touched numerous lives along with hers. According to her, it was a series of seized human events that helped her make her mark in a job she has been very passionate about.

Lyne Hilag

"I first got involved with Insular Life at the age of 17 when I was hired as a mail secretary at Ermita district sales office and then later on continued by my late manager Arcelie Segismo to work as an agent for Insular Life."

With regard to her most memorable experience in around two decades as an agent, she says, "It's when the company delivers its promises at the death claims, the dividend encashments, the loan grants, and the many other benefits the company provides to its policyholders. The tears and joints of the beneficiaries that turns to sheer respect and assurance of love from a loved one that passes away."

For Hilag, the company's services affirm the love of a parent for his or her family, the respect and devotion of a child to the parents, the unbroken promise of the head of a family, and the loving kindness and graciousness of a grandparent to their grandchildren.

This was deeply manifested when she had a client who was the sole breadwinner of his family. The client died when he met an accident.

"Without the life insurance proceeds the family would literally live on the street. She father then had a heart ailment, his eldest sister had leukemia, the youngest brother suffered a chemical imbalance, and his mother was already on retirement."

"My work in Insular Life, by the grace of God, has helped me strengthen and discovered and developed values and positive traits such as humility, patience, perseverance, leadership, discipline, steadfastness, among others."

It is said that a company's primary strength lies in the people within and around it. It would have been impossible for Insular Life to reach its centennial without the concerted effort of its executives, employees, and agents. The continued patronage of generations of Filipino families has also increased its staying power and its substantial prestige. As Insular Life prepares to stand as the nation's farsighted guardian for the years to come, the people who makes the most to the company remain proud and supportive of its legacy.

LIFESTYLE Food

GREENHILLS CHRISTMAS BAZAAR NOV. 12 - DEC. 11 GREENHILLS

REAL FOOD? CALL 887-8888 KFC DELIVERY

SIZZLING Silky Tokwa

Sizzling Silky Tokwa, 'sinabawang upo' and salted fish, and other wellness fare

THE JOURNEY to wellness starts with good nutrition and regular physical activities, and good nutrition begins with your food choices.

As they say "you are what you eat." The food we eat affects the outcome of our day—our mood, output, our mood and how we deal with others. These everyday food choices are a reflection of how we treat ourselves.

So what should we eat? Nutrition experts say there is really no such thing as good food or bad food—only bad diets.

The key to proper nutrition is really moderation, variety and balance.

Wellness in everyday life is all about simple everyday meal solutions.

Nestlé Philippines has come up with wellness recipes of simple, healthful and budget-friendly dishes.

Here are creative ways to incorporate wellness in main dishes, even beverages and desserts.

Papaya, Carrots and Fried Fish Salad

Delicious flavors and aromas come together in this Asian-inspired salad. Everyone will surely get his appetite going with just a bite of the green papaya mixed with the salad's sweet-tangy vinegar sauce and crunchy fried fish.

Preparation time: 30 minutes, plus 20 minutes to chill.

Serves 8-10

3 c grated unripe papaya

1 ¼ c grated carrots

¼ c chopped scallions

½ c dahe (dried shrimp), soaked for 10 minutes, then drained

3 pcs silky tokwa

¼ c brown sugar

¼ c cooking oil

¼ c calamansi juice

¼ c vinegar

1 ½ g Maggi Magic Sarap

2 tbsp garlic, cut in 4 pcs (optional)

Shredded left-over fried fish

Crispy fried rice or fried wonton wrappers

1. Toss papaya, carrots and scallops in a bowl. Set aside in the refrigerator to chill.

2. Using a mortar and pestle, coarsely crush the tofu and the silky tokwa together. Transfer to a bowl. Add sugar and mix very well.

3. Whisk in oil, calamansi juice and vinegar until the mixture is fully incorporated.

4. Season with Maggi Magic Sarap and pour in sauce.

5. To assemble salad, toss the prepared vegetable in the prepared dressing. Transfer on a plate and top with fried left-over fish, fried tofu or crispy wonton wrappers, if desired.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 214
CHO (g): 36
PRO (g): 6

NESTLÉ

Sizzling Silky Tokwa, 'sinabawang upo' . . .

Pantagat C1

Bars (g): 2
Good to remember:
Papaya is a natural source of vitamin A, which helps promote healthy eyesight.

Sizzling Silky Tokwa

This sweet and spicy dish is a healthful alternative to your usual sizzling fare. Preparing this is so fast and easy, you won't even break a sweat. Just be careful with the hot plate!

Preparation time: 5 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes
Serves: 4-6
Cooking oil for frying
5 pcs cubed tokwa
2 tbsp cooking oil
2 tbsp crushed garlic
1 medium onion sliced
½ c sweet chili sauce
½ c water
1 tsp Maggi Magic Sarap

1. Heat cooking oil. Fry tokwa until crispy and golden brown, but aside on a plate lined with paper towel to drain excess oil.

2. Heat the 2 tbsp cooking oil. Sauté garlic until it and onion are lightly brown.

3. Pour in sweet chili sauce and simmer. Add water and bring to a boil. Season with Maggi Magic Sarap.

4. Add fried tofu and stir-spry to consistency. Pour on top of the prepared fried cubes placed on previously heated hot plate.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 205
CHO (g): 2
PRO (g): 13
Fats (g): 18
Good to remember:
Tokwa is a meat substitute that has calcium and protein, among others, to help strength en bones and build and repair tissues.
Good to know:
You can serve this as side dish to fried fish and rice, or partner it with the traditional lugaw.

Sinabawang Upo and Salted Fish

Upo is one of the more common vegetables grown locally. A bowl of this soupy dish and a steaming cup of rice provide the perfect comfort food during cold rainy days.

Preparation Time: 20 minutes, plus 2 hours to soak the salted fish
Cooking time: 15 minutes
Serves: 6-8
2 tbsp cooking oil
1 thsp crushed garlic
½ c sliced onion
2 c shredded salted fish (whole salted fish, soaked in water for 2 hours then shredded)
½ c cubed, peeled upo
1 tomato
1 11-g Maggi Chicken Broth Cube
2 c malunggay leaves

1. Heat oil. Sauté ginger, garlic and onion until limp until fragrant.

2. Stir in salted fish and cook for 2 minutes. Add in upo and cook for another 10 seconds.

3. Pour in water and bring to a boil. Add Maggi Chicken Broth Cube. Simmer for another 5 minutes or until upo is malunggay leaves. Serve hot.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 99
CHO (g): 5
PRO (g): 9
Fats (g): 5
Good to remember:
A one-dish meal with fish and vegetables is a practical way of providing good nutrition for your family.
Good to know:
The fish in this dish is a good source of protein, while the upo is a natural source of iron, calcium and B vitamins.

Chicken and Vegetable Sticky Rice

Take a few lines of this scrumptious sticky rice and be pleasantly surprised!

Preparation time: 20 minutes
Cooking time: 40 minutes
Serves: 6-8
2 tbsp cooking oil
2 tbsp chopped garlic
1 medium onion sliced
½ kg chicken, cut into small pieces
1/8 pc okra, cut into ½-inch strips
3 pcs saging na saba, cut into small cubes
2 11-g Maggi Chicken Broth Cubes
1 tbsp juice of grated kaong shoot
½ c malagkit rice, soaked in water for at least 30 minutes
½ c rice, soaked in water for at least 15 minutes
11 water
½ c Bisalo All-Purpose Cream

1. Heat cooking oil. Sauté garlic and onion until limp.

2. Stir in chicken and cook until chicken is white in color. Add okra and saging na saba. Cook for 3 minutes.

3. Season with Maggi Chicken Broth Cube and kaong shoot juice.

4. Add in rice then pour in water. Cook over very low heat until rice is cooked. Add more water to cook if necessary.

5. When rice is almost done, pour in Bisalo All-Purpose Cream. Cook for another 2 minutes or until rice is fully cooked and all cream dry. Heap in banana leaves for individual servings if desired.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 224
CHO (g): 31
PRO (g): 9
Fats (g): 7
Good to remember:
Malagkit is distinct from other types of rice because it binds a lot of water, making it more sticky than others.
Good to know:
This recipe can be considered as a "one dish meal." It has rice, chicken and some vegetables that can help provide the body's nutritional requirements.

Fresh Siganfish and Dapap Relish

If you are looking for a new way to add life to any fried dish, this delicious salad will do just that.

Preparation time: 15 minutes, plus another 15 minutes to chill
Serves: 4-6
½ kg siganfish, sliced 1 inch diagonally
2 pcs red onion, sliced thinly
4 pcs tomatoes, seeded and sliced into thin wedges
Dapap dressing:
Combine:
2 tsp grated ginger
Zest of 2 limes
Juice of 2 limes
2 tbsp lagyang alamang
1 tbsp honey
1 tbsp patis
2 tbsp Maggi Chili Sauce

1. Toss siganfish, onions and tomatoes with the dressing. Transfer in a bowl and chill in the refrigerator until ready to serve.

2. Heat served as side dish to fried or grilled fish, pork and chicken.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 86
CHO (g): 11
PRO (g): 6
Fats (g): 1
Good to remember:
Siganfish or rabbit fishes are actually a great and inexpensive substitute for sapsap.
Good to know:
Siganfish is a good source of calcium, phosphorus and fiber.

Spinach Stir-fry

A popular side dish, this generous helping of leafy greens is nutritious with the help of spinach. Spinach is an excellent source of iron and calcium that can help make your bones grow stronger!

Preparation time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes
Serves: 4-6
2 tbsp cooking oil
½ c chopped garlic
½ c chopped onion
500 g Ilocos eggplant or small eggplant, or 2 tbsp lagyang alamang
1 kg pati (Pait, cubed)
½ kg diced and shredded pahi leaves
2 tbsp patis
1 4-g Maggi Magic Sarap
½ c coconut milk
½ c coconut cream

1. Heat cooking oil. Sauté garlic and onion until limp. Stir in shrimp and cook for 2 minutes.

2. Add pahi (Taro) and cook for another two minutes. Stir in pahi leaves.

3. Season with patis and Maggi Magic Sarap. Pour in coconut milk and simmer over very low heat for five minutes.

4. Pour in coconut cream and cook until pahi (Taro) is tender and sauce is thick and creamy.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 652
CHO (g): 46
PRO (g): 15
Fats (g): 47
Good to remember:
Coconut milk does not only give flavors, it also provides antioxidants, which has antiviral, antibacterial and anti-fungal properties.
Good to know:
Choose very dry and wilted pahi leaves for this vegetable dish. The older the leaves, the better they taste when used in cooking.

Alugbati at Talong Sa Bagoong

Alugbati may not be known to many but you will be surprised to know that this green leafy vegetable, commonly found in most wet markets, packs a lot of nutrients. It tastes great stir-fried or dipped in bagoong as a side dish.

Preparation time: 20 minutes
Cooking time: 20 minutes
Serves: 4-6
2 tbsp cooking oil
2 tbsp crushed garlic
1 medium onion, sliced
250 g ripe tomatoes, sliced
½ c fried and flaked meat of crisping pata/pigue
2 tbsp lagyang alamang
4 pcs talong, grilled, skinned and cubed
¼ c vinegar
¼ c chopped tops
1 6-g Maggi Magic Sarap

1. Heat cooking oil. Sauté garlic, onion and tomatoes until limp.

2. Stir in flaked tocsino and lagyang. Cook for one minute.

3. Add talong and cook for 20 seconds. Put alugbati tops and stir for another 20 seconds without covering.

4. Season with Maggi Magic Sarap.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 121
CHO (g): 4
PRO (g): 13
Bars (g): 6
Good to remember:
Maggi Magic Sarap provides the umami, or the "mushroom" taste we are all looking for!
Good to know:
Alugbati is a vegetable that is a natural source of fiber, iron, amino and vitamins A, B and C.

Munggo Manokbisa

This dish marienda near garlic a lot of yummy flavors your children would surely enjoy!

Preparation time: 20 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes
Makes: 24 pieces balls at 2/3 pcs per serving
2 c boiled and mashed mung gr beans

1. 28-g pack Bear Brand
¼ c brown sugar
½ c chopped ripe bangkal
¼ c all-purpose flour
Cooking oil for frying
Sugar for dusting
Procedure:

1. Combine mashed munggo beans, Bear Brand, sugar, bangkal and flour in a bowl.

2. Mix well to fully combine. When fully incorporated, scoop around 2 tbsp of the mixture and form into small balls and set to a tray/dish.

3. Heat oil. Fry munggo balls until golden brown in color. Transfer on a plate lined with paper towels to remove excess oil. Sprinkle with sugar while still hot. Serve as a dessert/snack or dessert.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 117
CHO (g): 22
PRO (g): 4
Bars (g): 1
Good to remember:
Munggo provides complete protein. It has all the essential amino acids needed for growth and development.
Good to know:
Mixing everyday dishes with milk is one way of increasing the nutrient content of food.

Lumpiang Kamoteong Kahoy

Another Pinoy favorite gets an update with this simple recipe. Camote or kamoteng kahoy makes for a healthy snack that provides just the right kind of carbohydrates the body needs.

Preparation Time: 30 minutes
Cooking Time: 10 minutes
Makes: 18 20-pcs
Ingredients:
1 kg kamoteng kahoy, boiled and mashed
¼ c butter
¼ c Bisalo All-Purpose Cream
¼ c sugar
18 pcs lumpia wrappers, cut into 3 half sheets
Cooking oil for frying
Sugar for dusting

1. In a bowl, combine mashed kamoteng kahoy with butter, Bisalo All-Purpose Cream and sugar until fully incorporated. Set aside.

2. Scoop around 2 tbsp of the prepared kamoteng kahoy into a lumpia wrappers.

3. Roll into logs similar to a lumpiang shanghai. Fry until golden brown on all sides. Transfer on a plate lined with paper towels to drain excess oil.

4. Sprinkle with sugar before serving.

Nutritional content per serving:
Calories: 183.9
CHO (g): 16.3
PRO (g): 0.4
Fats (g): 9.7
Good to know:
One small piece of camote is equivalent to one cup of rice.
Good to remember:
Consuming kahoy is an example of a complex carbohydrate food that provides long lasting energy.

MONGGO/Manokbisa

PRZSH Siganfish and Dapap Relish

SPINACH Stir-fry

STSWEE Gabi and Gabi leaves in Coconut Milk

CHICKEN and Vegetable Sticky Rice

SINABAWANG UPO and Salted Fish

PAPAYA Carrots and Fried Fish Salad

KUKOBAYI at Talong Sa Bagoong

Chili-based specialty dips, dressings and marinades

CHILE VIBES, a Filipino brand of specialty dips, dressings and marinades, opened its first kiosk at the Food Court, Level 1 of Robinsons Galleria on Oct. 18. Present at the event were Tina Mina, a former New York banker who is the CEO of the company; her business partner Richard Esteves, manufacturing consultant; and Mamta V., chief investment and R&D.

Chile Vibes comes in four variants: Chile Cheese which is sweet and medium spicy; Chile Mustard, tasty and medium spicy; Chile Pepper, hot and very spicy; and Chile Mango, sour and medium spicy.

The dips, dressings and marinades enjoy a hit with mothers and their children at the burgers where they were first sold. Chile Vibes products are either low-fat or nonfat, containing chilies which have health benefits from cellular repair to speeding up one's metabolism and revitalizing the heart.

Chile Vibes also sells Cinch la' Crispers, which is perfect for snacks at home or at parties and best partnered with Chile Vinegar.

Gaining the ribbon at the opening were the brand endorsers, international model Lend ves, an enthusiast Helena Malvadovera and gender specialist-recruiter's lawyer advocate Dra. Susana Bech.

Pastor Luther Monzon of Victory Christian Fellowship Church said a prayer of abundance. Bradenton, Candy by nationality but Filipina at heart, also stars in the mini-movie about Chile Vibes entitled "Bling, wit ng Pag-ibig," which has been released on YouTube, directed and produced by Dan Gil.

Chile Vibes is also available at Mercato Centrale at Bonifacio High Street arena and the major Solaire burgers, including The Grandest Export Import Bazaar at World Trade Center, St. James The Great bazaar in Ayala Alabang and World Bazaar at World Trade Center.

Order from Manila Delivery @7878. Visit www.chilevibes.com; tel. 8122001 or 0917-8607786/for more information.

'Pan de sal' with a twist

ROONG FLAKES of corned beef pan de sal spread? The Bread Bag Pandesal Bar has given the Filipinos' favorite bread a more palate-pleasing look.

Customers can choose from a selection of pan de sal sandwiches that are served with dips and sauces, such as Adobo Flakes with Kesong Puti (fried slices of pork and chicken in soy sauce, vinegar and garlic and topped with Cagayan's famous cheese variety), and Corned Beef Sandwich (house-cured beef brisket sautéed in onions and topped with scrambled eggs, served with garlic-onion dip).

Bread Bag maker is ours corned beef, said Jigger Galvez. "We make our own corned beef, which takes five hours to cure, marinade and make into strips. This also ensures that our ingredients stay fresh and flavorful all the time."

Other must-try *pan de sal* meals include Kesong Puti with Pesto (kesong puti with basil pesto, tomato and balsamic vinegar syrup); Pan d la Calzone Roast Beef, Chicken and Mushroom; Sardines; and Chicken Schnitzel.

The sweet stay be paired with Big Bread's home-brewed barako coffee or Hot Chocolate made from native Davao tablea.

The meals are served in 100 gram pan de sal using the recipe and methods of the famous Cora Marova restaurant.

The Bread Bag Pandesal Bar is at Unit 104/115A Origin Home Depot, Julia Vargas St., Pasig City. For inquiries, call 7027764 or 4760017. Visit www.thebreadbagpandesal.com or www.facebook.com/pandesal.com.

Streetkids get help from 7 chefs, 12 restos

THIS CHRISTMAS season, seven of Manila's top chefs are coming to the aid of street children.

Joining Urbanic Foundation in its Enlighten Smiles campaign are Chef Bjoern of Cafe Chef Cyrille of Cibo; Chef Laurent of La Cocina de Tita Moning; Chef Harshil of Grimaldis, Felix and Florabel; Chef Sonja of Cupcakes by Sonja; Chef Jesse of Restaurant and Chef Colin of Kafe, Sala Bistro and People's Palace.

Brighten Smiles is the Christmas campaign of the year-long first-in-Manila project of Urbanic alongside its restaurant partners. It informs people about the plight of street children and encourages them to help better the children's lives.

By dining at any of Urbanic's partner restaurants—Cru, Cupcakes by Sonja, Grimaldis (Eastwood), Cafe Cibo (Eastwood), Cafe Kafe (Eastwood), Cupcakes by Sonja, Grimaldis, Felix, Florabel, La Cocina de Tita Moning, Sala, Sala Bistro and People's Palace—between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31, diners will also help feed street children.

Merienda at La Cocina de Tita Moning says, "I find the problem of street children in our country to be a very serious one. It seems an endless and a often feels difficult to be able to come up with a solution to help others than just giving them something while they beg on the streets. I have heard many good things about Urbanic and feel that this is an organized and beneficial way of doing our part."

Visit www.urbanic.org for more information.

Enjoy Thanksgiving Day shopping with your SM Advantage Card

Get a headstart on your holiday shopping today, November 25, at the Thanksgiving Day Sale event in SM.

Simply present your SM Advantage, SM Prestige or BDO Rewards Card to earn points, redeem rewards, and receive exclusive discounts on practically all items at SM Department Store, SM Appliance Center, Ace Hardware, Baby Company, Kultura Filipino, Our Home, Surplus, Sports Central, Toy Kingdom, and Watsons. Avail of the same exclusive offers at Ace Express, Ace Builders, Pet Express and select SM Mall branches of Adidas, Nike, Levi's and Triumph.

THANKSGIVING DAY

SALE

today only, november 25

all items on sale*

Exclusively for SM Advantage, SM Prestige & BDO Rewards Members

*Discounts and exclusions apply.

DEPARTMENT STORE ACE Hardware appliance

Also at Ace Express, Ace Builders, Pet Express and selected branches of Adidas, Nike, Levi's and Triumph

Year-round Exclusives

SMAC Treats

Enjoy more discounts and freebies from more than a hundred establishments inside and outside SM Supermalls with the SMAC Treats Program. Share them with family and friends!

Mall Tenants Program

Make shopping more fun and exciting! Earn and redeem points when you shop in over a thousand non-SM stores inside SM Supermalls nationwide.

PLDT Telerewards

Pay your bills and earn SM Advantage Points with PLDT Telerewards. Enroll your SM Advantage membership into the PLDT Telerewards Program by calling 171 or 101-811, or by logging on to www.pldt.com.ph/telerewards and start earning points based on your payment transactions.

Taal Vista Hotel

Take a scenic break at Taal Vista Hotel and enjoy special room rates exclusive to SM Advantage, SM Prestige and BDO Rewards members. Plus, get discounts at the hotel's F&B outlets and at the Ylang Ylang Spa.

Kenny's Offer

Get a free box of muffins or Kenny's Healthy Plate when you dine at any Kenny Rogers Roasters. Simply present your SM Advantage, SM Prestige or BDO Rewards Card with a minimum food purchase requirement. Hurry! Until December 31 only.

Petron Points

Cas up at participating Petron stations nationwide and earn SM Advantage points. Watch out for special offers and promos from Petron exclusively for members.

LIFESTYLE Food

How to prepare food for the camera–more tips from Delores Custer

Or how the look of French toast can change from dramatic to contemporary

By Norma Chikiamco
Contributor

ON A SUNNY Friday morning, in a restaurant by the bay a session that took months to plan and prepare finally happened.

Master food stylist Delores Custer took command of the stage and lectured on a topic many know of but few understand: How to prepare food for the camera.

Although she had given similar seminars in Manila, this time for lovers in Corona Redondo seminar on the book she had written, published recently by Wiley in the US.

HOW TO D2

'Diamond' corner by the bay

DIAMOND HOTEL Philippines opens Corniche, which combines beautifully appointed facilities, elegant interiors, international cuisine and impeccable service.

The word "corniche" is a French word which typically refers to a road on the side of a cliff or ledge. Diamond Hotel is located on a famous esplanade, the Roxas Boulevard, parallel to a waterfront promenade, which is a road on the side of a ledge or coast. Hence the new restaurant's name, Corniche.

Corniche is located on the hotel's lobby, and the 400 square-metre space can accommodate up to 210 persons. The classic outlook when guests experience supreme ambiance created by the restaurant from the play of lights, wide spaces and outdoor ambiance, merging in creative breathtaking day and night experiences.

Through the use of materials like marble, polished metals and acrylics, Corniche dominates the concept of today's theme. It has contemporary overtones and cultivating Americas styles. Coffee shop by day, it transforms into a sophisticated, intimate evening venue through custom-designed lighting, iconic settings and private suites for large and small events.

Responded over the central area is the focal point of the suites—"Migrating Birds"—which is a fusion of glass and metal. The custom-designed chandelier draws inspiration from magnificent full-height windows offering a scenic view of the gardens and white features beyond.

Exceptional buffet

High-lighted by the lushly landscaped garden views and picturesque vistas for marine, with outstanding wine by Bell, Corniche showcases an exceptional buffet spread composed of different culinary selections from the Asian, Western, Japanese, salad and dessert stations. All dishes are meticulously prepared by culinary experts for marine, with outstanding wine by Bell.

How to prepare food for the camera . . .

From page D1

"Food Styling: The Art of Preparing Food for the Camera," is a mere of a book, 8.27 x 10.5" in size and 358 pages thick. It's replete with information every food stylist should know: from the anatomy of an asparagus to finding the camera's angle, from the tools of the trade to choosing the right props.

It's also information that those in related fields such as restaurateurs, chefs, culinary instructors and food manufacturers would find extremely useful.

Custer should know: wherein the speaks. A food stylist for some 30 years and with a master's degree in food and nutrition from New York University, she has styled for practically all the major food companies in the US including General Mills, Pillsbury, Kraft, Unilever, Lexington, Campbell Soup, Sweetheart Oven and Tupperware.

She has also styled for film and TV and has worked with celebrities such as John Child, Food Network's Sara Moulton, Susan O'Donnell, Dan Aykroyd, Patti LaBelle and Eddie Murphy.

During her PowerPoint presentation, Custer showed how the same bowl of cereal can be made more interesting with different arrangements of the cereal flakes and different lighting. Into the look of a fresh, but get sandwich would depend on whether it was shot for an ad or for an editorial page, how a dollop of whipped cream would look different for the home economist and for the food professional.

There's even such a thing as a gold standard in the look of food, she said. As we are planned: For one company it would be chips with tips that curl inward, for another the tips should point straight upward.

Mouthwatering

Custer also showed how to present a mouthwatering bowl by arranging two bowls of chili: one that looks cold, dry and uninviting, another that looks fresh, warm and appetizing.

A dish of creamy rice and spring vegetables would likewise be prepared differently if it's for an editorial shot or for an advertising assignment. For editorials, she would follow the recipe exactly and shoot it as one; for advertising, she would have a team re-cook to get the perfect appearance.

Looking at all the food shots certainly made the audience hungry. At lunch, Marjorie Dominguez, head chef of Orozco Restaurant and chef-instructor of CCA Manila, and her team served an international buffet that included spicy garbanzo rice rolls with bulgogi, classic blanche, fish tagine stew with paprika cumin sauce, saffron rice with seafood, steak and garlic aioli, and chimichurri-style grilled chicken.

Desserts were crispy mango pancakes, chocolate-banana cupcakes, while beverages included iced tea and horchata—cups of cold rice from The Coffee Bean+Tea Leaf.

The afternoon session was just as informative. Custer showed how to produce consistently droplet- and condensation-free drinks and how to make a cold beverage look chilled—a technique that includes flicking a mixture of Kaio light corn syrup and water onto the glass with the use of a stiff toothbrush.

And how does a food stylist add a splash of milk to a bowl of cereal? With a \$250 needle. (Answer: I used only if it's the cereal and not the milk that's being sold in the package).

And then there's the "Grill Marks Ball of Shame"—grill marks that don't match the grill, for instance, or those that are not equidistant. With the help of food stylist Thea Zaragoza, Custer showed how to create grill marks that look believable by heating a skewer over a portable torch and using these to create the marks on chicken breasts, for example, or on salmon steak.

FRENCH toast with a dramatic look. Styling by Thea Zaragoza

WITH an upscale look

WITH citrus colors, paired more casual-like sequence

Highlight

A highlight was her demonstration of a French toast recipe, the same concoction she does in her classes at the Culinary Institute of America in New York. Zaragoza later showed how the look of French toast can change from drama-ic to contemporary by changing the props and the lighting (produced on screen by photographer Mike Cheung).

Video presentations of commercials Custer has done perked up the afternoon presentation: a margarine commercial shot in an old European castle, an ad for The New York Post that featured three ice cream scoops magically disappearing under a newspaper, and a commercial for the food section of Family Circle that had the audience feeling nostalgic for the 50s.

Raffle prizes for the participants included boxes of Inguso Oil, colorful umbrellas from Mapecrin Fashion and a copy of "The Parrigan Lover."

Co-presented by National Book Store, the seminar was attended by over 200 participants, including chefs, food manufacturers, photographers, caterers, art directors and public relations executives.

Many of them were repeat customers. Which just goes to show how popular Custer has become in Manila—and the importance food styling has acquired in a culinary world that's getting more and more competitive.

Custer's French Toast

3 eggs, well beaten
1/2 fresh milk
2 tbsp sugar
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp ground nutmeg
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 whole bread loaf, sliced into one inch thick pieces
No butter
Confectioners' sugar
2-4 US limes*

In a pie plate, whisk together the beaten eggs, milk, sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg and vanilla. Dip one to two slices of bread in the milk mixture, then turn over bread to coat other side.

Heat skillet to medium heat and melt about 1 tbsp butter in skillet. Cook one to two slices of bread in the skillet until bottom sides turn brown. Turn the bread over and cook other side. Transfer to a plate.

Repeat with remaining bread slices and milk mixture, adding more butter to the skillet as needed.

To serve:

With a sieve, dust the toasts with confectioners' sugar. Squeeze some fresh lime juice over each French toast.

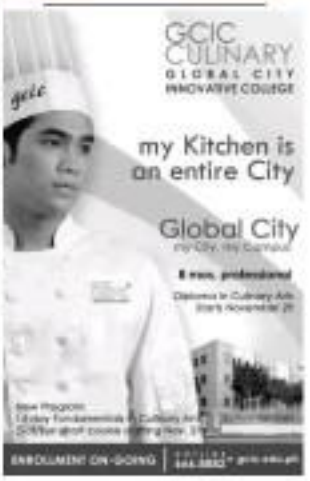
*Dime: US limes are not available in Manila, you can substitute dayap.

Makes 8 slices

CELEBRES: Custer (seated, in red jacket) and some of the seminar organizers: Renette Cardona, Miguel Reyes, Chichi Dee Carmo-Luz, James Lucena of Pling, Jules Galos, Charles Dee and Norma Chikiamco

Quick food-styling tips

- DO LEARN about food styling trends, check out grocery stores and observe the packaging.
- If using lemon as a garnish, cut from the stem side where there are fewer seeds.
- To give a cup of coffee a "just poured" look, add some bubbles on the edge of the cup. You can use a detergent mixture to make the bubbles and add them with an eyedropper. On the book, she recommends Photo Flo.



Celebrate Thanksgiving with an amazing feast at SM Supermalls

There are so many wonderful things that make the year that's about to end a truly blessed one. Celebrate Thanksgiving the Pinoy way and show just how grateful you are for your good fortune by bonding with the family and sharing great meals together at SM Supermalls. Cap this off with a unique kind of entertainment that only SM can serve up.

A greeting of thanks

Hear the many reasons why you should be thankful during the Thanksgiving Mass on the last Sunday of November at SM Supermalls. Celebrate Thanksgiving and experience the well-loved Pinoy tradition of sharing a delicious meal with the whole family. The time is also perfect for saying thank you to all the people who matter to you.

Never forget to say thank you

We'd like to give you more reasons to be grateful. We will be staging a series of malls shows to remind you of the many things that are left to be shared and said with the family as you enjoy an amazing sale-sale at SM Supermalls.

Say thanks with a delicious, crispy lechon

SM Foodcourt will be joining the Thanksgiving festivities by including whole or chopped lechon in their menu. Sink your teeth into the crispy and juicy goodness of this Pinoy favorite along with other bestsellers like sisig, porterhouse steak and a whole lot more from November 15 to 30.

There's so much more to be thankful for and so many reasons to celebrate Thanksgiving at SM Supermalls. Bond with the family. Share a wonderful sale-sale with lechon as the star of your feast. Enjoy the many shows we've cooked up just for you. This is our way of saying thanks for continuously supporting us.

SUPERMALLS

Celebrate Thanksgiving the Filipino way

A delicious way to give thanks

Thank your lucky stars for this wonderful treat from SM Supermalls. SM food establishments that have lechon on their menu will be serving it up and season it with lots of hot freebies to celebrate Thanksgiving. Have your fill of this amazing lechon feast with family and friends only at SM Supermalls.

As if this wasn't enough, we will set up booths offering lechon for those who just can't have enough of it.

Satisfy your craving for yummy crispy lechon at SM Supermalls.

For inquiries: call (02) 219-4024*, text 0906-4685473* or visit www.smsupermalls.com

*Standard rates apply

LIFESTYLE Food

GIFTAPHILIPPINES NOEL
24-28 NOVEMBER 2010

CORELLE
Sakura Collection
• Thin • Lightweight • Break and chip-resistant
with 1-year warranty

NORA Daza with (from left) Jan Velasquez, Melvin Lu, Dante Tolo and Joel Cruz

Once more, Nora Daza and her recipes

The Philippines' first culinary icon –whose cookbook is a household bible– is reintroduced to new generations of food lovers

HER FIRST-EVER cookbook, "Let's Cook with Nora," has become a household "bible" for millions of housewives in search of easy, simple yet delicious meals for their families.

The cookbook has traveled far and wide, carried by Filipino expatriates abroad as their essential guide to indigenous home-style cooking.

Culinary icon Nora Daza then followed her best selling cookbook with two more recipe books, "Cooking Cooking Philippine Cuisine" (which she co-wrote with daughter Sharlene Daza) and "Nora S' Daza: A Culinary Life" (written with Melinda Feniz), which are now having reprinted for the nth time, together with the first book.

Members of three or four generations of families have enjoyed Daza's consistent recipes and hearty selection of popular Filipino everyday dishes and day-to-day food preparation that never fail to work, such as sinabawang gulay, pancit mami, lumpiang sariwa, chicken tinuhal, bistek tagalog, etc.

Readers of her cookbooks get a glimpse of her devotion to Pinoy food. It has seen her using store-bought, tasteful cooking tips and vivid descriptions of places she's been to.

Daza, the Julia Child or Betty Crocker of the Philippines, followed the success of her cookbook by putting up a Philippine restaurant in Paris called Aux Iles Philippines, which became one of the top three Asian restaurants in the city of lights, and was rated as French gastro Gault Millau and Unité Michelin with three forks.

"Life in Paris was the best part of my life," she said in a press conference at Dusit Thani Manila in Makati.

The Ilaw successfully opened the very first French restaurant in Manila, Au Bec Vivant and, nearly later with Gallang Gallang, which specialized in native dishes.

Back in the '80s, she hosted an instructional culinary show on TV and whipped up thousands of dishes. Through her TV show, she instantly became a household name.

'Cooking It Up with Nora'

By her books, radio shows, TV shows, travels and personal classes and teachings, she laid the solid foundation

UNCLE WORK E2

WHY PAY

Big bargains
to brighten up your holidays.
THE END OF YEAR SALE! SALE! IS HAPPENING AT MARKET! MARKET!
FROM 10AM TO 10PM, NOVEMBER 26-29.
FOR THE BEST OF NOVELTY AND FASHION BARGAINS.
IT'S OUR LAST SALE FOR 2010, AND IT'S GOING TO BE A BIG ONE.

GARFIELD

A. UPIN

PUGAD BABOY

DICK TRACY

LOVEBOOTS

BABY BLUES

KIKO MACHINE

SEN

Ang Dryber

SHERMAN'S LAGOON

TULDOG

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Not to worried about mixed about! Socializing with foreign countries, higher education and scandals, publishing and the media makes you excited today. You must something to look forward to.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Be sure to reading something or watching a movie that makes you laugh today. Don't go overboard financially is good, but so is a healthy self-interest.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Constantly is promising something that seems to be too good to be true. Don't settle. It is too good to be true. People are inclined to be secretive today.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Not a different day from one today! To workers and others are suggestive. Don't stay and follow through on them good intentions.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Be careful during going time to. Be something might look better than it is. However, the time you to socialize and participate with which, especially children.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Be cautious when making decisions to study members today. They were bought today is upbeat, however. It's best to postpone more than you can afford.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You ought to dinner with to talk today. It's easy to overlook little things. You to do. Be careful with driving today – and on weekends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be careful about overdo. Avoid unnecessary obligations today. Don't feel you are of but it is by something if you do get it. Don't avoid your relations before they're embarrassed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Today you feel optimistic and confident about life! You want to make the place! You an important about something will carry you through all the little problems.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) This is not an ideal day for research. It's a very easy to be annoyed with details. People to others's overlook little things today because they're focusing on what's happening in the future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You're a busy activities will perfect and social today. People want to have a good time! Always exhibiting flattering yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) This is a positive day to meet people. Socialize them in a big way. It's easy to take all more than you can share. Be careful about agreeing to meetings with bosses and authority figures.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3×3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. For more programs or www.sudoku.com

Conceptis Sudoku — By Dave Green

					2		6	1
			4					9
			8		7	4		
	6	2				7		4
				1				
1		9				5	8	
		7	5		9			
6					8			
5	1		6					

Difficulty Level ★★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

New number to call for food, party emergencies

THERE'S A NEW number to call for all your food and party emergencies...it's 2212121. I discovered this quite by accident two weeks ago when I needed to have lime and Tim's cinnamon rolls delivered to me in an odd location, Buendia Memorial Park.

I gave precise instructions to the food runner at the coffee shop of I. p.m. I then asked if it was okay to pay them with a check. They said no, but I could pay with a credit card instead. Perfect!

Five minutes before the appointed time, a man nearly gasped, food runner in hand containing my beer or cinnamon rolls, walked in. I handed him my card, he then swiped it and the transaction was done.

He handed me a copy of their Quick Delivery booklet, and that's how I found out that this company carries the delivery requirements of 175 restaurants and food providers spanning some 500 locations, with an average of 3 additional restaurants being added per day.

2121212 gives a whole new meaning to the word delivery, offering us the convenience of making life, eating and entertaining so easy. Literally, the company behind it take all our hassles because, especially since we are gear for the busiest time of year.

I had to know more, so I contacted Marco Katigbak, one of 2121212's owners, to ask him to paint a picture of what he do-

Reggie Aghuron

Eating and entertaining made easier

ing. Here's what he had to say:

Q: What made you start this company?

A: We are not only able to deliver food for parties of any size. If you can order it in, we're on it! Seriously, we will deliver to anyone. Desire "Asian"? Would you like to watch that?"

Should you decide to stay home and invite friends on a Saturday for a DVD marathon, with popcorn, burgers, pizza or chocolate fudge sundaes all in between, we will deliver to anyone. Desire "Asian"? Would you like to watch that?"

"For group ordering and corporate accounts, coordinating lunch in the office can be chaotic," added Katigbak. "We cater to each account to get everyone's choices, then collating the information to relay your order—a lot of product info is time consuming, so you can relax lunch. Without having to pick up a phone, we've got numbers—print a paper and menu around, you can have your group lunch ordered and delivered on time. Through quickdelivery.ph, pick your restaurant, and your invites will be emailed by e-mail of a pending lunch order. From their computers they go online and make their choices. Coordinate with your work and your delivery will arrive by the requested time."

"To my cousin Jin Gonzalez

QUICK Delivery 2121212's rudebiscuit.com

works, this was how the business concept came to be. 'One day working out at the gym, I saw this documentary in Boston's foodopolitic. It was about the Quick Service industry in South Korea. I quit school three days doing further research and building the right business model for the Philippines."

For information, call Quick Delivery at 2121212.

Disclaimer

When I featured Rustagon's Jerry Comfort and listed Emily Santos' number for information on the Batangas wine event, she received a text message which was supposed to have come from me, inviting her to socialize!

To all those reluctant members of Santos' cir Kitchen Rescue, please be informed that I am NOT taking any of you to send me food. Salamat po.

For my holiday cooking class schedules, call 09175554706; 09063572346, 9098498, 9289096.

Last week's Lagang Gel photos were taken by Farhana Bandoy.

E-mail the author at reggie.a@inquirer.com.ph

PAN CIT Lagang

CHICKEN Relleno

CHICKEN Binalot

Once more, Nora Daza and her recipes

Photographs by

of kitchen management for the Filipino home. More significantly, she bridged the gap between Filipino cuisine and world gastronomy.

The renowned teen deserves to be recognized by young generations for it is by her cooking styles and recipes that they have been nourished at home and driven to an edible limit to dine out from time.

That's why David Thrasher Manila pays tribute to Nora Daza's culinary life, with her cross-over parables of stories and recipes, classic and exciting recipes from her cookbooks, presented in a week-long buffet at the Shangri-La Hotel Fiesta Festival at Bonifacio Global City, coinciding with her birthday on Dec. 2.

The buffet dishes will be cooked according to her recipes and under her strict supervision. Some of these treasures are: Bare-Bare, Pinapaitan Mixto, Pancit Luglog, Native Paella, Pescado al Horno, Camotique, Prawn Pampanga Fruit Salad, Bicol Fish Roll Pie, Ice Cream Sans Rival and Pecan Bizcocho, to name a few.

Daza will be available to autograph her cookbooks on Dec. 26, 7-10 p.m. (The books will also be on sale at the booth lobby during the week-long promotion.) Call 2869500 ext. 6439.)

Here are some of the recipes called from one of her books, which will also be featured in the food festival.

Inquirer Lifestyle

Chicken Relleno, Batangas Adobo, Sans Rival

(CYCLED FROM 'A Culinary Life")

"One of the best Chicken Relleno I have ever tasted was in the home of Jr. and Ma. Aguinaldo Libon. They had a family cook who was called Mang Bere, at that time, already bed-ridden. He was a native-born cook. When Mang Bere cooked relleno, it was like a ritual and he produced beautifully seasoned chicken every time. Mang Bere considered his specialty a matter secret and I tried to duplicate it in this recipe. At least I gained advice on cooking the stuffing was given to me by Mrs. Dominga de Fernandez whose family is also known for good cooking. She said to 'boil cook the stuffing in butter in order to use as little fat as possible in processing. The result is as good and is certainly much safer.'

1 large chicken (about 1½ to 2kg)
2 tbsp soy sauce
1 tbsp calamansi or lemon juice
½ kg ground pork
½ lb cooked ham, chopped finely
4 pcs Vienna sausage, chopped finely
½ c sweet pickle relish
2 eggs
½ c grated cheese
10 pcs green olives, pitted then chopped
½ c raisins
1-2 tbsp breadcrumbs (optional)
Salt and pepper to taste
1 tbsp MSG
2 hard-boiled eggs, quartered
¼ c butter

Remove chicken for stuffing. Marinate in soy sauce and calamansi juice. Set aside. Mix first eight sweet 11 ingredients. Fry about 2 tablespoons of the mixture. Correct seasonings. Shell chicken, arrange quartered eggs in the center. Sew up opening and wrap in aluminum foil. Bake in moderate oven (350°F) for 1½ hours.

Allow almost done, unwrap and continue baking until chicken is brown. Baste with butter several times. Cool and slice. Arrange in a platter.

Serve with gravy and glazed sweet kamotes. Serves 12.

Batangas Adobo

(Called from 'A Culinary Life")

"I was enchanting this recipe because, apart from being peculiar to Batangueños, I remember adobo as one tattooed dish. This particular version of the adobo (with cherry or tomato sauce), I am afraid, will soon fade away because it has not been tried to often in the past years. When it does, there is no different part of my childhood will have also faded away."

½ k beef
200 g beef heart
200 g beef liver
½ k pork
½ to 1 c vinegar, depending on acidity
1 small head garlic
1 tsp salt
½ tsp black pepper
3 tbsp achuete soaked in 1 c water, strain

Cut all meats into serving pieces. In a saucepan, combine vinegar, garlic, pepper and salt. Put in beef and beef heart. Cook for 20 minutes. Add pork, beef

SANS Rival

liver and achuete water. Simmer until tender. Strain sauce. Brown the garlic and then the meats in hot oil. Remove as mentioned. Cover and simmer until sauce thickens.

Sans Rival

(Called from 'A Culinary Life")

"Mang Bere clothes, go through periods when they are in. It was egg pie in the '50s and '60s, cold in many Chinese holidays in Cantodo. In the '60s and '70s, it was Sans Rival. Pilosi. I introduced the dish in my restaurant in Pedro in 1972. I called it Genoa Noodle and used almonds instead of cashew nuts. The Swans were suspicious of that the dessert originated from Davo. As a matter of fact, Sans Rival is included in a cookbook by the Pedro de Guzman Blue published in 1966. There must have been a select group of Filipinos who went to Pedro and took courses at Cordon Bleu. They must have shared the recipes with others in Manila which, I believe, was how Sans Rival was introduced to the country."

4 egg whites
¼ c sugar
1½ cashew nuts, chopped finely
1 tsp vanilla
Cream and flour for the dry ingredients. Cream butter and sugar until fluffy. Add egg yolks one at a time, beating well after each addition. Continue beating until the egg whites are stiff. Fold in cashew nuts and vanilla. Spread thinly in prepared pans. Bake at 300°F for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Cut wafers in the center if desired. Loosen and slide wafers to a flat surface. Cool. Fillings: whole wafers are for because they are hard to loosen as they are crisp when cool. Prepare filling.

Filling:
1 c sugar
1/3 c water
6 egg yolks
½ tsp butter
2 tbsp rum

Boil sugar and water until it spins a thread. Meanwhile, beat egg yolks in thin stream while beating. Cool. Cream butter. Blend in the egg yolk mixture and rum. Fill and cover wafers with filling. Sprinkle top with chopped cashew nuts. Serve chilled.

BATANGAS Adobo

Winners in Doreen Fernandez food-writing contest bared

COUNTRY COOKING

Micky Fenix

AFTER WADING through 10 years' worth, three energetic and capable members of countryman Ilocano Doreen Gamboa Fernandez Food Writing Award 2010.

The judges this year was breakfast, the most important meal of the day according to nutritionists but which many people tend to ignore. Contestants were about subscription breakfasts, those they shared with the other members of the family like aunts and grandparents, food cooked that's only eaten that time of the day or ordinary food made special because of that time of day.

When the judges conferred over a good lunch at Cafe 1771 in Ortigas, they all agreed that there were more good entries this year. As one of them said just before the deliberations, "It will be fun to debate over choices." He was referring to previous years when the lunch took more time than planned because the judges differed widely in their choices.

This year, however, they all agreed readily as to the three top winners and the three honorable mention awardees. And because only five pax names were on the entry sheets, they all awarded separate five-star meals to be rewarded. At Chef Jessie in Rockwell, Makati, the DGF 2013 winners were rewarded Monday at a dinner by Chef Marcia Lubos Branch of the bi-lingual Wine and Food Society.

First place was titled "Leaves and Tubes," a remembrance of summers past in Sampaloc City, by Lina Vilda Cortes Paguirigan.

Judges would like to try one of the entries—the 'humba,' written by a Benedictine monk who used to be the fashion designer Gang Gomez

AT THE awarding ceremonies: 1st place Theresa Lina Jison, 2nd place Dean Sharill Penabese III and Katrina Cortes Up representing 1st place Lina Paguirigan

The rest of characteristics include her grandparents and grandparents and how daily dinner would be two breakfasts. The first one was just de rat' with lard cross joint with coleslaw inside been tables.

The second was the "real one" with rice and fish you dodoyan pakyaw cooked in vinegar, adobo with chopped vegetables and lumpiang ubod as. Or it can be bayad (unshelled squid) with dried dengue, steamed pako (Bakhtawan fern) and fried eggs. Added to these are the tawang dumaslet (cutchery pickles) and/or what were not enough. Pangaro would have glutinous rice and cassava concoction were also offered such as suman, bathud and sapin-sapin.

Dagoo-sinol could be homemade cancer she more from in his groan, she's an outreach and communications specialist with the US Forest Service International Programs, providing briefing materials for her office and the US Congress. She works at chief of the cookie newsletters, a graphic designer and an event and exhibit manager.

Many entries over the past years introduce the judges and myself to food we hadn't even heard of. Many of them didn't win but we still remember them. This year, pa'el sea me such unheard of food but this time the prize was second place. Dany Sharill Penabese III wrote about the breakfast food he tasted again on a trip to Pinabara, a remote old settlement in the heart of Bataganoros."

"For centuries, the ubiquitous pa'el has been a staple in the Maguindanaon's quotidian fare meal," Penabese wrote.

He describes how the bidut, "the beloved mama," cooked the "chicken in ground turmeric powder, crushed ginger, salt and lato leche" on seasonal oil. The food was wrapped in banana leaves and grilled lightly on burning coconut shells. Mixed with rice, it gave what the author described as "a unique flavor that flirts with the sensation."

Penabese is known in the Philippine culinary scene having been one of the Undiscovered and who today does consultancy and lectures on halal preparation and cooking.

The breakfast is remembered by third-place winner Theresa Jocelyn Pontejos Jison of Tribu-Li, Mandaue City, Cebu.

Her "Memorial Feast," is set in Palawan where the meal bound with friends and had breakfast done by fishermen on Iloilo Island. It had an ambon, lato (seaweeds), tao (cockscomb), rice and fish of the fish that is now endangered, nursing or hampered extinct (Chelonia mydas) where she had an argument with the captain of the fishing boat who wanted to do the fish while still alive and the author refusing to have it that way.

She got her way and said that her aim on how that simple experiences "are simple breakfast made from natural, chemical-free, freshly harvested ingredients."

Third-place Jean is a Biology graduate who also finished law studies and worked as a biology teacher and then a lawyer with its WWF. She said she tried writing again after was editor in chief of her high school paper when her son's essays and poems were published in his school's paper.

The three honorable mentions are Christine Nuñag ("Hiking Recipes: A Regional Showcase"), Amapola T. Salgado ("The Egg: A Simple Start"), and Sigrid Bautista O Gayanga ("A Poet Man's Recipe").

The DGF Food Writing Committee was also delighted that Tessa Maria Esguerra, CEO of the Museum of Transfiguration in Bohilano wrote about the recently forsaken the media office. Two of the judges would like to try the dessert by chocolate in deliciously to be crazy.

E-mail: pinoyfood2002@yahoo.com

COOKTOPS THAT ARE SIMPLY TOUGH.

LA GERMANIA

LIFE PROOF

TUNA Soup

Canned tuna in 15 home-cooked flavors

THE "SARAP Barbecue and Grill" 555 Tuna offers 15 "Sarap ng Lutong Bahay" flavors.

The dishes are made with fresh ryan, choice vegetables and natural spices: Afritada, Caldereta, Mechado, Adobo, Sweet Tapsilog, Sisig, Bicolana, Lechon Paksiw, Pinoy Especial, Sweet & Spicy and Laing flavors.

For comfort food, there are the classic versions: Pinoy-style Oil and Hot & Spicy, and new ones—Corned Tuna in Vegetable and Chili flavors.

Every can of 555 Tuna is said to provide nutritional benefits like protein for bone strength, Omega 3 for a healthy heart and Vitamin A to build the immune system and for good eyesight.

The 15 quality flavors are available at canteen stores, supermarkets and grocery stores nationwide.

ENTERTAINMENT

Edita Evonne G. Velarde

Remember Kuya Bodjie?

"PATROL" will soon be back, this time on TV5. The new crew members, who grew up on "Patrol," met Kuya Bodjie and the Sienas recently and were star-struck. But he was teased about the possibility of having bigger lenses on his eye board because his eyesight is no longer as good as before.

Marinel R. Cruz

CHEER FACTOR

5 indie films highlight metro film fest

By Marinel R. Cruz

FOR THE first time in the Metro Manila Film Festival's 36-years, five independently produced films will be screened as a prelude to the annual 10-day event in December.

According to Francis Tolentino, chair of the Metro Manila Development Authority, which oversees the festival, this innovation aims to encourage young filmmakers to uphold quality even on a limited budget. (By definition, an indie film is produced mostly outside of a major film studio.)

Said Tolentino, who is also MMFF executive chairman: "This is one step of showcasing the work of new filmmakers. It is also aimed at raising public awareness of [Filipino] indie films, which are often not commercially driven here but are acclaimed abroad."

The five indies that will select in the MMFF:

• Jerrold Tarog's "Senior Year," which is about 10 students struggling to handle obstacles before graduation. Produced by Digitask Studios and Siberia Films, the coming-of-age film stars Che Ramos, Li Mercado, Bj Ledesma and Iza Feles.

• "Trisha," by Adolf Alix Jr., is an all-women film about life in a women's correction center, co-billed by Anita Linda, Jaclyn Aplaquin, Rosanna Roces, Myla Ramirez, Joel Saracho and Jaz Telen.

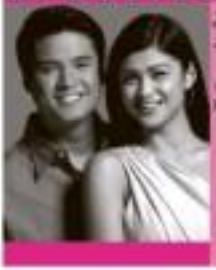
• "Snowfalls," by Nonnod Sales, is about a man's rediscovery of his long-forgotten craft, filmmaking. Sales posted on the website www.indiefilmsmovie.com: "[The character] Dexter shoots a series of videos about himself and his community and the beauty of life."

• "Kinatay" is the latest project of filmmaker/animator Noel Zurbo. It is about an overseas Filipino worker who catches his woman with her paramour, man amok and terrorizes an entire neighborhood. Actors Chanel Latorre and Paolo Rivero play the lead roles.

• Jonah Lim's "Museum of Dolls" tells of a boy who is swept away by a strong current during a riverside picnic. It features Darryl Shaw, Anna Luna, Kenneth Ocs and Ronaldo Luna.

The MMFF project is dubbed as "Sikat ng Indie Films—Philippine Premier." The five films will each have two screenings from Dec. 16-20 in the SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS



Celebrate the lighting of the giant Christmas tree with Lucie Abellana and Geoff Eigenmann. There's also a parade of heavenly display and a night market for everyone to enjoy.

NOVA'S CHRISTMAS LIGHTING EVENT

Lighting of Christmas Tree
Parade of Lights
Heavenly Display
Night Market

Robinsons Malls

Lose the beer belly. Drop the pounds.

BUY 1 TAKE 1

on FAT MOBILIZATION SYSTEM (FMS)

Get rid of your beer belly... fast! FOR MEN's Fat Mobilization System (FMS) revs up your metabolism, letting you burn as much as 2,300 calories in just 20 minutes and lets you continuously burn more even up to 2 days after a session. You'll go from fat to fit in no time!

Our amazing Buy 1 Take 1 deal is EXTENDED until November 27, 2010.

Upgrade your looks. Fast.
Call now for a FREE private consultation.

Call 813-7959

marie france FOR MEN

MAKATI • ORTIGAS • TOMAS MORATO • BINONDO • ALABANG • SHAW • CONGRESSIONAL • PAMPANGA • CEBU

Still ill

ACTOR William Martinez suffered a stroke on Monday afternoon and is now in the intensive care unit (ICU) of the St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City, his brother Albert confirmed on Tuesday.

WILLIAM Martinez

Albert said the family would release a statement as soon as Williams doctors give an update on his condition.

In a TV interview on Tuesday morning, William's wife, actress Daya Aguila, said the actor was brought to the hospital after complaining of severe headache on Monday. She said William is conscious but is still suffering from headache.

The family is still awaiting the results of tests conducted on the actor.

Marinel R. Cruz

NEWPORT CINEMAS

SKYLINE
11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 10:55

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS Pt. 2D
10:50, 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:50

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS
11:15, 2:15, 5:15, 8:15, 11:15

TAKERS
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:45

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 HARRY POTTER (2D)
2 HARRY POTTER
3 TAKERS
4 MY AMNESIA GIRL
SAW

Meet-n-Eat Place

POWER PLANT CINEMA

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS Part I -PG13
1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

MY AMNESIA GIRL -PG13
1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00

TAKERS -PG13
1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15

MY LINE -PG13
1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30

UNSTOPPABLE -PG13
1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 8:00, 10:00

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS Part 1 (2D) - PG13
12:00, 3:45, 9:30

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

Like us on Facebook

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA

- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- DO NOT DISTURB
- CARS 2
- TANGLED
- UNSTOPPABLE
- SOURCE CODE
- THE GREEN HORNET

MANILA

- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- SOURCE CODE
- TANGLED
- MY SUMMER LOVE
- MY AMNESIA GIRL

METRO EAST

- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- MEGAMIND
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- TANGLED
- CARS 2
- SOURCE CODE
- MY AMNESIA GIRL

NOVALICHES

- TANGLED
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- MY LOVE
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1

FORUM ROBINSONS

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- CARS 2
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- TANGLED

STA. ROSA

- TANGLED
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- CARS 2

LIPA

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- SOURCE CODE

DASMARIÑAS

- TANGLED
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- BAD GHOSTS

STA. MARIA 5

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- TANGLED
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- CARS 2

IMUS

- TANGLED
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- CARS 2
- MY AMNESIA GIRL

ANGELES

- TANGLED
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- SOURCE CODE
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1

TACLOBAN

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- TANGLED

DUMAGUETE

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- TANGLED

BACOLOD

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- TANGLED
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- SOURCE CODE
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1

ILOILO

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- TANGLED
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- SOURCE CODE
- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- SOURCE CODE

GENSAN

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- LET'S GO MY ANGKOY
- MY AMNESIA GIRL

ILOCOS NORTE

- HARRY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PT. 1
- MY AMNESIA GIRL
- TANGLED

SM CINEMA

visit: www.smcinema.com

like us on facebook

COSTUME FRIDAYS!

Come dressed as your favorite Harry Potter character when you watch HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS™ - PART 1 on the following dates and branches and get a movie mini-poster!

SM Megamall & SM Cebu: Nov. 18 2010

All SM Cinema branches: Nov. 25, Dec. 2 & Dec. 10, 2010

We will be giving away free Movie Passes to exceptionally creative costumes!

Opening at SM CINEMA November 18

IMAX

IMAX

metro manila

luzon

visayas • mindanao

SM TICKETS HOTLINE: 470.22.22 / WEBSITE: www.smtickets.com

Get tickets at any SM Cinema ticket booths nationwide

OPENS ALSO

- A Chaos Christmas 3rd Retake — Nov. 30, 2010, 7:30 PM
- The Secret of Moonlit Pillow 3D (Animated) — Dec. 1, 2010
- Grand Gesture Circus — Dec. 22, 2010 to Jan. 4, 2011
- Manila Sound Project in Concert — Dec 27, 2010, 8:30PM
- Ashley Brewster Live in Manila — May 14, 2011
- Asher Lee in Manila — March 25, 2011, 8:30PM

New Port Performing Arts Theater
SMX Convention Center, Hall 3
SMX Convention Hall
Glo Theater
Interactive Theater
G Fores Hall, Makati

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED.

OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF FOOD AND DRINKS AT ALL SM CINEMA LOBBIES

Sawing oneself in half

From page E1

I felt relief at the Makati Shang show as I got up onstage and sang my songs. Right after my final number, I took off my heels, changed into flats, then ran out of the ballroom, down the ground staircase, out the front doors and into my car. My apologies to anyone who I may have stressed down in the process.

I kept in touch with the president and team of the second ed. Al Arabi ka Aba' "Mas ang Training Ko" at the Ayanna Coliseum, to keep them posted on my travel to Qatar via Qatar. Thankfully, the traffic that had congested Edsa earlier in the evening had subsided.

As soon as I got to the Big Dome, a production team member escorted me backstage, where I grabbed a few precious minutes to breathe. Soon enough, I was given my microphone, stage instructions and cup of water, after my Al introduced me, I went up on stage to sing my number with her.

Surprisingly enough, but exciting nonetheless, all this made more exciting by the crowd that had gathered for Mr. M. Ac her fans, MEGADITO encounters, and media folks, reps, and celebrities.

Supportive crowd

Among the supportive crowd, I spied Gov. Vilma Santos, actor Marvin Agustin and (after I had asked about his whereabouts) the always-handsome Aga Muhlach and his gorgeous wife Charlene Gonzales, comedian John "Sweet" Lapus and celebrity photographer Raymond Isaac.

Done with my performance, I went back to my room and freshened bathroom down and joined my husband to watch the rest of the concert.

To de-stress, I resorted researching to ear with Bob and Ti to Girlie Rodis. I then asked her if the Muhlachs would like to join us; they said yes. Our apologies to The Premiere if we happened as he was tired or rowdy as that very last hour.

This business is never lacking fun...as the directors of a three time... excitement.

I'm only happy when I have family and friends with whom I can share it all.

Yes, including those inner beasts caught in traffic when I do, literally, feel like sawing myself in half to make it to class for the next performance.

Any suggestions?

To everyone who've bought the "Sana Tonight" CD, thank you for your incredible support. My gratitude also to those who came to my CD signing at The Block, SM North Edsa.

I want results, what should the next concert concept be? If you have any suggestions, I would love to hear them! You can find me here: @MeLeahSantiago on Twitter; my fan page on Facebook, or my website, www.leahsantiago.com. Hope to hear from you soon.

Sawing oneself in half

Show biz is stressful but exciting

THERE is a show biz term that kind of makes me laugh whenever it's used. Ingat ka ng saw—as in sawing a plank of wood, a board, or anything related to carpentry.

However, in the show biz context, it means to rush like a madman (or in my case, a mad woman) from one gig to another, sawing oneself in half seems necessary to make it to both performances.

Once upon a time, when I was a child prodigy raising my records, I would need to make a few visits to TV shows. It sometimes leave school at lunch to go to one station, sing my song, and then proceed to another station.

Sometimes, there would be a chain of three TV shows, one after the other. My mother made sure that, in each show, I had a different outfit on, the second time I'd have three dresses hanging in the back of her turquoise station wagon, and en route to the station, she'd break my hair and change my outfit. Sometimes I would wear things that had appliqué and somewhat resembled patchwork, that was a fun.

At a young age, I learned that, in order to get ahead, you must, as they say, pay dues to the Buddy Guerrero shows. To make sure that everyone made it on time, we all met up at the Blas Ople's office (which was only a stone's throw away from some of the TV stations). Then only a small bus to wherever we needed to go. After that, we were all treated to lunch at one nearby.

I still remember lunching at the big Japanese restaurant on Quezon Ave. near Edsa, where they served the best tempura-battered and fat-stained orange chicken with the delicious pulp at the bottom.

The waiting

Recently I was treated to this rather crazy practice of lunching from one gig to another. It didn't help that it was on a Friday night (which was always at its worst) and that the gigs was from Makati to Cubao.

The first gig was for the 2010 grand homecoming of the UP College of Law at Makati Shangri-La Hotel. After a late-afternoon sound check, I headed to my room for hair and makeup ... and plenty of waiting.

There was a guest of honor who would be delivering a speech, which meant that the festivities wouldn't really begin until after he had arrived (he was almost an hour late!).

It drove my stress levels close to critical.

Thankfully, we were informed by the second gig's promoters that, because of the Friday night traffic jam, they would be starting late, too. This was the first time I was thankful that a show wasn't starting on time.

ENHOLE ITI

SMART Rewards offers exclusive Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 IMAX screening

It's only the season for giving as SMART Rewards continues to roll out great gifts for its most loyal patrons. For the remaining months of 2010, SMART Tnx subscribers can be rewarded with free tickets to exclusive movie screenings at the IMAX Theater, SM Mall of Asia every Friday to Sunday prior to their first movie screenings. Passion can walk in and easily receive either free tickets to Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 to be screened on November 26, 7:30 p.m., or to Tanda vs. Tuwad on on December 10, 3 p.m.

Those interested to apply for a SMART Tnx prepaid retention plan and show their Web Connect account will automatically receive three tickets. Walk-in subscribers also receive one movie ticket by showing their Web Connect account (www.smart.com.ph/connect) at the SMART booths conplaint or by simply enrolling an account on this spot. Those who apply for new SMART Tnx units exclusive also receive two movie tickets.

The SMART booth can be spotted on November 5 to 7, 12 to 14, 19 to 21 and 26 to late Eo the Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 screening, and on November 27 to 28, December 3 to 5 and 10 to 12 for the Santa vs. Snowman screening.

SMART Rewards definitely makes it easy for Filipinos to fully maximize their experience as a subscriber. With a long list of partner merchants, there's always a perfect lifestyle option for every subscriber.

SMART Tnx users can catch the much-awaited Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 movie at the IMAX Theater for free, thanks to SMART Rewards.

SMART subscribers can reap amazing SMART Rewards already enrolling them at more than 100 partner establishments nationwide. To claim these rewards, SMART Gold and SMART Buddy subscribers can simply text SMART Rewards to 9999 (P1 MMORDS to 9999. For SMART Tnx subscribers, sign up through SMART Web Connect at www.smart.com.ph/connect. Visit www.smart.com.ph/rewards to find out more about SMART Rewards.

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS™ – PART 1 AT THE NEWPORT CINEMAS

BRING YOUR ROBES AND WANDS TO THE NEWPORT CINEMAS!

Come dressed as your favorite HARRY POTTER film character from November 19 to 26 at the Newport Cinemas to get a chance to win exclusive movie premium items.

Costume Contest Mechanics

Are you a fan of the HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS™ – PART 1 movie?

Express yourself by coming in your best HARRY POTTER film character costume where you watch at the Newport Cinemas like these kids.

To join the contest, submit photos of yourself in costume taken at the Newport Cinemas photo stall to fpr1costumecontest@newportlife.com by November 26, 2010.

NEWPORT CINEMAS
HEYDAY FILMS
LUXURY CINEMAS AT ITS FINEST

BACK STORY

Lisa Seberger

Twin Oaks Place

GREENFIELD DISTRICT

Control your home wherever you are.

The country's first future-ready community lets you be the master of your home with just a push of a button on your mobile phone or computer. Welcome to Twin Oaks Place. This refreshing residential condominium building not only aims to provide you with the usual amenities, it also marks the beginning of a truly smart and connected standard of living with its state-of-the-art technological features. Who says you have to be inside your house to be in charge of it? Twin Oaks Place makes it possible to access and control your home even when you're on the go. As long as you have your mobile phone or computer, you can stay connected to your place wherever you are.

Twin Oaks Place, the first future-ready home.

High-Definition Video Conferencing
Connect with the people that matter to you through a vivid videoconference. No lags. No delays.

Remote Thermostat Control
Set the temperature the way you want it to. It's perfect when you get home.

Mobile Entry
Enter the building and your unit with your mobile phone or iPhone as your key.

Curtain Control
Open or close the curtains according to your preference.

Light Control
Switch on, adjust the brightness, dim it, or turn off the lights.

Audio System Integration
Play music in your room and bathroom from the rest of your unit.

Media Hub
Transfer or download files in a matter of seconds with lightning-speed connection.

Mobile Remote Control
Turn off your appliances from outside your home.

Real-time Video
Download online entertainment or watch them in real-time.

Video and visual items although based on present plans may not reflect the most current development status may be subject to change without prior notice. Greenfield shall only provide the floor-wide backbone to allow the building and each Unit. The features above are merely optional and are not necessarily standard features of the condominium units. All items needed to connect to the fiber optic backbone of the building from the unit shall be for the account of the buyer.

Superior building facilities and services await you in the country's first future-ready home.

Twin Oaks Place
AHEAD OF ITS TIME.

No distance is too far away with our real-time videoconferencing facilities.

Fiber-to-the-home technology makes it possible to keep in touch with your loved ones and colleagues no matter where you are. Through high-definition TV and close-to-perfection telepresence capabilities, even the farthest gap can be bridged. Stay close in spite of the miles. When you and the people that matter to you are this connected, it feels like you're never away from home. Only at Twin Oaks Place, a home built ahead of its time.

Smart & Connected District

In the heart of Mandaluyong lies a fast growing community that takes pride in being the country's first Smart & Connected District. This is Greenfield District, a prime expanse that houses a master planned community and is home to Twin Oaks Place.

Greenfield District is carefully designed to become an ideal and "intelligent" city that's ready for the future while remaining as pristine as the past. It is the perfect fusion of hi-tech convenience and natural serenity, providing people a true break from the chaos and congestion.

As stewards of land, it has been Greenfield's duty to develop vibrant communities that flourish and become the foundations of life. Let our land be the legacy you leave behind for future generations to enjoy. Nurture a thriving tomorrow with us now.

Twin Oaks Place
AHEAD OF ITS TIME.

For inquiries, call 53-GREENFIELD (7336) / 0917 53 GREENFIELD (7336)
or log on to www.greenfield.com.ph
or www.twinoaksplace.com.ph
Visit our interactive showroom at
Shaw Blvd. corner Mayflower St.,
Greenfield District, Mandaluyong City

GREENFIELD
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Let Tomorrow Thrive

14,000 copies in 500 bundles (2000). The design shown is for announcement purposes only and will not accurately represent the unit to be delivered. Terms and conditions apply.